Vol. XX NOVEMBER, 1907 No. 11

Of the Church · By the Church · For the Church

# Luther League Review

The · Official · Organ · of the Luther · League · of America

DELEGATES TO THE LUTHER LEAGUE OF NEW YORK STATE AT THE SYRACUSE CONVENTION.

**Reports of New York, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa State Leagues in this number.**

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Of the Church—By the Church—For the Church

Luther League Review

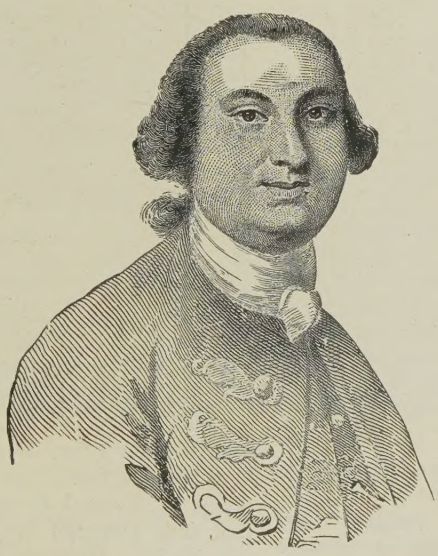
# A Decisive Battle and Its Hero

## Lessons for Leaguers From the Leaves of History

"Remove not the ancient landmark which thy fathers have set."—Proverbs, 22:28.

BY ANNA M. LANDIS

HISTORY records many events of sacrifice and undaunted courage, and these have been, to succeeding generations, monuments of noble heritage. We read with great earnestness and reverence of the men of Israel, like Moses, Joshua, Saul, David and Gideon, who, at God's command, went forth to conquer in His name. Coming down the vista of years we see the mighty Napoleon conquering all Europe and the pure Maid of Orleans, filled, as it were, with a divine inspiration, liberating her beloved France.



Henry Bouquet

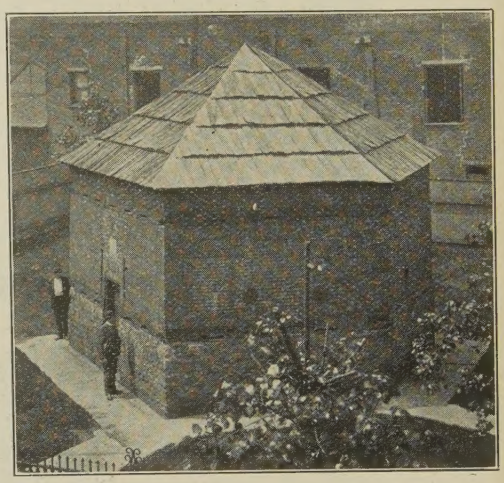
Every student of history should be familiar with the history of our country in its formative period, when the red men roamed o'er the forest. 'Twas at such a time that a brave Swiss Colonel left his home among the beautiful mountains of his native land, where all nature sings and life is so sweet and pure, to come to our shores to assist in a great struggle for right of inheritance. This, as many of our Leaguers know, was none other than Colonel Henry Bouquet, a man of two-score years. His biographers tell us that from early boyhood he loved soldier life; it seemed a part of his very nature, and while yet a lad he was made a cadet. How well he conducted himself and how faithful he was to duty is found in his promotion from a member of the Holland Guards to Lieutenant-Colonel of the Swiss army, organized in 1754 by the Duke of Cumberland, for service in the American Colonies. His forces were part of the Forty-second and Forty-seventh Regiments, which had landed in Philadelphia from the West Indies, after fighting the Spanish. In the year 1755, when the brilliant General Edward Braddock, of the King's army, marched to his defeat near the site where now stand the famous steel towns of Bes-

semer and Braddock, along the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Swiss Colonel was landing on the American shores, ready to engage in a terrible conflict he knew not where. The hero of this sketch was a man of commanding appearance and dignified bearing, yet not above the lowliest who needed his service. Fond of society, the young and handsome soldier soon became a favorite in Philadelphia. His nature was such that he could mingle in any class of society—cultured or uncultured.

Colonel Bouquet had learned the secret of Indian warfare and taught his soldiers how to march against the savage foe. All war means bloodshed, but the danger along the Western frontier seemed more imminent, because every valley and forest concealed those who were lurking for their prey. Courage and loyalty to a cause which brought forth the best of the man and soldier reflected in the character of the men who followed where he led, and with joy unspeakable could the early settlers of the Keystone State, as well as their descendants praise the valorous deeds of Colonel Bouquet and his soldiers. He, like Moses of old, was fighting for an earthly heritage for his people. Before his army lay fields, forest and streams abounding in richness, but the enemy—the enemy must be conquered or subdued. How applicable the words of the Lord in the life of the leader of England's hosts, as they were to Joshua, who, at Moses' death, commanded the Israelites—"Be thou strong and very courageous—turn not from the right hand nor the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest."

Uninviting as was the march across the mountains from Carlisle, in Cumberland County, Colonel Bouquet, who had been called to the relief of Fort Ligonier and Fort Pitt, summoned his men, about five hundred in number, and of these sixty were disabled, and proceeded westward. They reached Fort Ligonier, and with difficulty gained entrance into the fort, because of the Indian's cautious eye. After ministering to the bodily needs of the settlers, who had fled to the fort for refuge, the army hastened on to the relief of Fort Pitt, fifty miles away. It was on the 4th day of August, 1763, after resting two days at Fort Ligonier, that the brave commander and his little band started on their errand of mercy. They traveled westward over the old Forbes road, which Bouquet had helped to make five years before. The march was beset with danger, as no one knew at what moment a shot might issue from behind some tree or other hiding place.

Late in the afternoon of August 5, 1763, the soldiers, tired and footsore, thought to rest a short while near Bushy Run, in Penn Township, Westmoreland County, Pa., about six miles northwest of Greensburg, the county seat. No sooner had they reached the spot when the Indians opened fire. Bouquet had brought with him a number of the settlers who had been sheltered in the fort at Ligonier, and among them was one Andrew Byerly, whose descendants are numerous in West-



BLOCK HOUSE.
The Redoubt of Fort Pitt. Built in 1764. Preserved by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

moreland County. His last resting place is to be found in the beautiful burial grounds known as Brush Creek Cemetery, one mile from the writer's home. He it was who urged Colonel Bouquet in his strategic plan for surrounding the enemy at Bushy Run.

While the firing from ambush was not unexpected, Colonel Bouquet and his men were not fully prepared for the terrible onslaught of the foe. Pontiac's men fought with great fury, and when darkness fell upon the battlefield, sixty of Bouquet's soldiers and several officers lay dead. The night was full of terror, and almost continuously the shots from the Indians' ambuscade made the darkness more severe. Bouquet knew that with the dawn would come a fresh attack, and his preparations for the battle must be complete. The red men rejoicing over the victory of the first day, doubtless thought the white men

(*Continued on page 22.*)

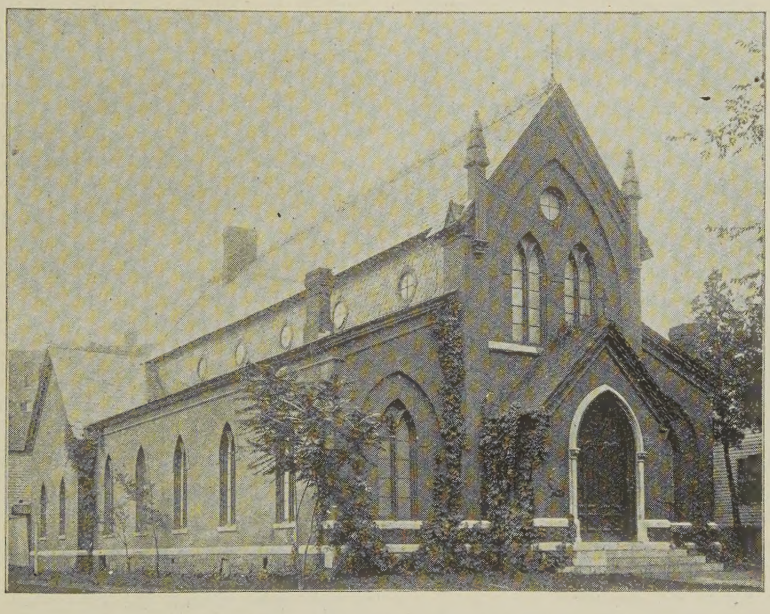
# Luther League of New York State

## Fourteenth Convention at Syracuse, October 29-31

BY MISS FLORENCE FELLOWS

THE fourteenth annual convention of the Luther League of New York State convened October 29-31, 1907, in Syracuse, N. Y. The opening, as well as the business sessions, were held in the First Lutheran Church, Rev. W. M. B. Glanding, pastor.

Rev. Reickert, of Canajoharie, conducted the opening devotional services at the first session on Tuesday evening. Mr. Frank M. Yenney, president of the Syracuse District Luther League, in his address of welcome compared the assembling of the convention to a happy family reunion, when we clasp hands at the altar of affection. The words which decorate the front of the City Hall, "Syracuse Bids You Welcome," are those spoken from the heart of every Syracusan to-night.



FIRST CHURCH, SYRACUSE.
Where opening and business sessions were held.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. E. F. Eilert, the first president of the State League, President J. M. Reynolds happily responded to this cordial greeting. He said: "I consider it a privilege and an honor to respond because of the cordial and hearty welcome expressed in deeds as well as in words. 2. Because of the splendid work the Syracuse District has accomplished during the past year. 3. Because of what the Luther League stands for—the development of a trained and loyal laity for service of the Church, by the Church, for the Church. 4. Because of the opportunity which it affords me to bring this greeting from the president of the Luther League of America, Mr. W. C. Stoever, who wrote: 'Your subject is one of great importance at the present time. Our people have had too little "understanding," and therefore have not known how to "act." We need information and education, then every one will be ready to give an answer, and I trust that every item on your program will leave its impression, so that when the Leaguers return to their respective churches they will be found ready and efficient in doing the work of the Church. So much is to be done, the workers seem so few, and our League will only do its work effectually when every member becomes interested and renders hearty service.'"

In closing President Reynolds quoted the words of the viking king, who on the field of battle urged his men forward with these

words: "Men of the cross, men of the vow, men of the king, forward!" The president recommended this motto to the Luther League, as men of the cross (of Christ), men of the (confirmation) vow, men of the King (of Kings) forward!

After the singing of a duet, "Sweet Hour of Prayer," by the Misses Klink, Rev. Chrisen berry A. Ritchie, of Binghamton, preached on the convention topic, Understanding—Act. "Accepting Christ—a Fact of Wisdom" was the subject of his discourse, his text being the words of 1 Peter 3:15, "And be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you, a reason of the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear."

"The first epistle of Peter was written during the time of the persecution. It was sent to the scattered pilgrims throughout the different parts of the then known world. It was given in order that they might by having this consummation and encouragement receive a greater joy in the determination to stand for the cross of the living God and to do their duty, so that there might be no reproach coming to them nor upon the cause for which they stood; but if possible to win the enemies to the cross and save them also to the truth. To-night we live, not in an age of persecution; there are no fetters to bind our feet; there are no shackles to be placed upon our hands; there are no tyrants to inflict injury upon us. We are living in a free land; we are living in an age where there is Christian liberty and yet the world is not free. Men are not free; they do not speak with freedom; they do not act with freedom.

"There is yet something to be done if we are to win the world for Christ.

"There was never an age in the history of the world where there was needed to such an extent the winning of men to the cause of Christ.

"Ah, there is yet not the words to be spoken, but the lives to be lived in order that the world might see and know, that thereby no reproach may come upon the cross of Christ; if, perchance, by your life and my life, the world may be saved to the cross of Christ and for the glory of God.

"There are three different thoughts that come to mind in the consideration of the text relative to the Christian life. We will look at that which places the standpoint of hope—the hope that is within you. Then we will study the attitude or restless inquiry of the world concerning that hope and the reason of that hope and compare it with the readiness with which the Christian should answer concerning the reason of that hope, which is to be set forth to the winning of men to the kingdom of Christ. The apostle understood something of the meaning of the hope that is within. He could love and cherish the thought more, and he could send the message with a greater earnestness because he himself had experienced it. The hope is the joy of life, and is that which should cause one to stand firmly. It is that which brings a joy to the heart, a comfort in the coming days.

"There are men whose minds and hearts are centered in nothing else than the things that be of God and of his Christ. If they stop for one moment to think of the kingdom of Christ, it is only to formulate some new plan, some new theory for its furtherance. There should be a readiness on the part of you and me to present it in season and out of season, and especially to every man that asketh concerning the reason of that hope, and every one has a right to know. The answer for the reason of the hope within us should be Christ."

A bass solo with violin obligato was effectively rendered during the offertory. After the singing of "Love Divine, All Love Excelling," the closing service was conducted by Rev. Glanding. A delightful reception at the close of the session was tendered the delegates.

### Second Session

On Wednesday morning the devotional service was in charge of Rev. L. F. Gruber, of Utica. Seventy-five delegates responded to roll call, though the credential committee later reported 85 delegates and 18 alternates in attendance.

After the reading of the minutes of the last convention, the report of the statistical secretary was read, showing 105 societies enrolled with 6,801 members. There are 2,698 volumes in libraries. Luther League Topics used by 29 Leagues, hymnals by 31, reading course by 19, religious meetings held by 81, amount of benevolence of the Leagues $9,500, Junior Luther Leagues 26, members 959, Topics used by 6 Leagues, hymnals 9 and reading course 2, religious meetings held by 18, and total benevolence $228.

The treasurer, Mr. Louis C. Smith's, report showed a balance of $55.25. This was re-

ferred to the auditing committee, of which Mr. Tribshel, of Brooklyn, was chairman. The Executive Committee reported through E. A. Hieber, chairman, having selected as the keynote of the convention, the words: "Understanding, Act"—believing this will make the papers, addresses and discussions practical and profitable to delegates and visitors, as well as helpful to local societies. It is a lamentable fact that our State League had such a small representation at the National Convention in Canton, and it is hoped that the Chicago Convention will have a full representation from the Empire State. The following resolution is offered: Resolved, that the president be authorized to appoint a full quota of delegates and alternates to the National Convention, to be held at Chicago next summer, so that New York State may have a full representation. The Press Committee's report was read by Mrs. A. R. Pardee, in the absence of the chairman. They reported that the Albany and Susquehanna district, Rhinebeck and New York City have been the most active in furthering the work of this committee. The committee feels that especial mention should be made of the work of Mr. F. M. Yenney and Mr. E. Taylor, of the Syracuse District, for their assistance, and of Mr. C. G. Foster, of Rochester, for his timely aid in a heretofore unrepresented district.

The report of the Literature Committee, in the absence of the chairman, Mr. I. S. Runyon, was read by Rev. U. J. Klingensmith. It called attention to the fact that the Leagues in New York State are not giving the support to the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW that the official publication of the League deserves, and urged all of the 6,800 Luther Leaguers in the State to become subscribers. If people join a society for the promotion of their business interests they should think it worth while to read the official organ of that society.

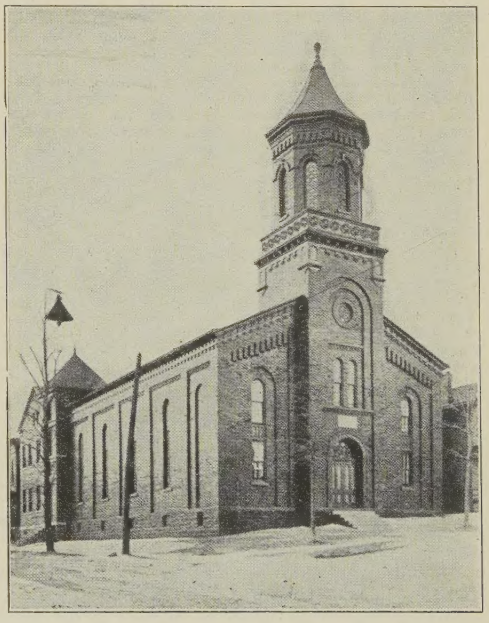
The Extension Committee reported through its chairman, Mr. William Eck, that the Syracuse district has added 4 new societies, and the New York City district reported the addition of 2. The Brooklyn district reported the organization of 2 new societies. Canada reported new Leagues organized in Toronto, Ontario and Montreal. Mohawk Valley district reported one League organized and 2 dead Leagues revived.

It was recommended that $10 be appropriated annually for the purchase of literature for this committee. The president, Mr. J. M. Reynolds, then gave his annual report:

To the members of the Luther League of New York State:—

The privilege of presenting four annual reports as President of this organization is one that has but once been accorded to any of my predecessors, and it is with a deep feeling of appreciation of the confidence you have placed in me, and also of gratitude to our Heavenly Father for the blessings which He has showered upon our work, that I beg to submit this, my final report as your President.

The work of the Luther League of New York State during the sixteen months which have elapsed since our last convention in Binghamton, June, 1906, have been marked, not by any special features, but rather by a continued, steady growth along nearly all lines by the various districts, and, with a few exceptions, local Leagues.



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.
Where the Wednesday evening session was held.

Of the work of the State League as a whole, I feel that there is but little which I can add to the reports made by the various officers and committee chairmen.

A net gain in membership of 6 Senior and 2 Junior societies, and 472 members is a record which speaks for itself, and one of which we may well be proud. The many gains in the numbers of the societies using the Hymnal, the Reading Courses, and holding religious meetings, as well as the increase in the amount given for benevolence is also a splendid record.

Since the Binghamton convention, it has been my privilege and pleasure to attend meetings of three District Leagues, and to visit seven local societies, and to hold thirteen conferences and committee meetings with leaguers in various parts of the State. In addition to this I have sent over 400 letters regarding the State work. From every source, District and local meetings, conferences and correspondence come reports of progress and of earnest zealous effort in the work of our Master.

In summing up the work of the Luther League of New York State for the past eighteen months, one paragraph from the report of the State President submitted at the Hudson Convention in 1905

is equally applicable and worthy of a repetition at this time: "Our young people are learning to know better and better every day that Luther League work means more than all else—service. Service in the Sunday School; service in the Church; service in their every day lives—all made more effective and more helpful by the practical training received in the Luther League. But, beyond all, our young people are coming to have a deeper sense of the real spiritual significance of Luther League work, and of its avowed purpose to make our young people's societies of more practical benefit and aid to our own Church."

Our State League conventions have one further purpose, one further value not mentioned in our State Constitution. That purpose, that value is the pointing out of the weaknesses of our work, and, if possible the discovery of a remedy for them.

The great weakness in our League work in New York State to-day is, the fact that our local societies are not in touch with, and do not support, the work of the National League to the extent to which they ought.

This lack of touch and lack of support is apparent along three most vital lines:

First, the financial support of the general work of the National League. At the Buffalo Convention in 1904, a resolution was adopted requesting each local society to contribute 10 cents per capita annually for the support of the General Secretary's Salary Fund. This resolution was re-adopted at Canton one year ago to-day. The money received from the various local societies in compliance with this request of the National League is absolutely the only source of support which the National League has for this work.

Despite this fact, the total amount contributed by the local societies of New York State, since the Canton Convention one year ago, is only $121.80. Of this amount $65.80 was contributed by the New York City and Buffalo districts, which guarantee the total amount of the per capita requested, for their respective districts, leaving $56 divided among 6 societies as the showing of the remaining 6 districts in the State League.

Fellow Leaguers, I firmly believe that this deplorable showing is traceable very largely to a lack of knowledge on the part of the local societies as to the method of supporting this most important line of our general work, and I feel it my duty, as your President, to urge each delegate at this convention to make it a personal obligation upon himself or herself, to present the matter to their home society, and to urge its importance to the continued growth and progress of our League.

If, as a result of this convention, this matter can be rightly and faithfully presented to our local societies, I am satisfied that results will come that will place New York State, the mother of the State Leagues, where she rightly belongs—in the lead in the support of our national work.

The second and third weaknesses are closely akin: the support of "The Luther League Review" in subscriptions and news items.

"The Luther League Review" is our paper, it is the property of every individual society, it is also the official organ of the Luther League of America, and as such should go into every local society in the State.

No League should try to do Luther League work without having at their command the best source of information and knowledge about that work. No young man would expect to succeed in a business or trade without studying the business from the bottom up, or serving an apprenticeship in his chosen trade. And yet, many young men and young women expect to succeed in work in the League without learning anything about it from other people. They can, 'tis true, but they will grow old while they are learning by experience how to work rightly—a fearful waste of precious time. They are losing the best ideas and best methods of the most successful Leagues in America, many of which might be easily and quickly adapted for successful use in their own home society.

This convention ought to place itself upon record as emphatically endorsing THE REVIEW, and of pledging to it and to the general work of the Luther League of America its most loyal and hearty support in every line of its work.

After the singing of "Come, Thou Almighty King," an interesting paper on "The Junior League—Its Aim and Methods," was read by Miss Clara Guelich, of Utica, as follows:

In the days of the Reformation, the chief aim of Luther was to impress upon the world the truths of God's holy Word, the words that told of justification by faith, and not salvation by works and deeds. It was his aim throughout his entire life to bring them to the right understanding of the sacred truths of the Bible, then a book so obscure and almost unheard of by many.

But not only are we indebted to Luther for the open Bible, now printed in so many different languages, and within the means of every Christian to possess and read, but we are also indebted to him for the catechism, a small Bible in itself, whereby the young are taught to know the way of God in the commandments, the Christian faith in the Creed, and the Lord's prayer, the guiding prayer to all prayers. However, Luther did not deem it sufficient if a child was taught its catechism and Bible on Sunday. No, a part of every day was to be employed in searching the Scriptures. The parochial schools devoted a certain period each day to religious study. Although it would be almost impossible at the present time to follow this mode of instruction in our schools on account of the many different denominations gathered together, still it is the proper training of the young, which is the all-important question of to-day. In these days when the reading of the Bible in the public schools is prohibited, when the tendency of our youth is so strong for enjoyment and pleasure, when it seems that the principal thing in a child's life is where he or she can find the most amusements, it is the Church then that must come to the rescue. It must use every effort to give children the training that will fit them for the future as good citizens, and good Church members. To teach them to remember their creator in the days of their youth, and that memory to remain with them all the days of their life. The pleasures which they crave for can be supplied in the right way, also. The Junior League not only helps in the religious training of the child, but also offers opportunity for pleasure in the social functions, which are necessary in every society to keep up the interest of some who are less attracted by the religious or educational meetings.

The future of our Lutheran Church depends largely on the way the children of our Church are taught and trained. In the Sunday School the child is taught its duty as a Christian, in the catechetical class its duty as a Christian and Church member, but in the Junior League it is taught how to be a Church worker. A child will appreciate the confidence placed in it by being appointed to serve on a committee, or in doing something for the League and Church, they will love their Church more, and be loyal always in all duties if they begin while still very young.

The aim of the Junior Luther League then, is to bring up the boys and girls of our Church to a right understanding of the doctrines of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, to so implant in them the truths of the Word of God as taught by our Church, and to awaken and develop in their hearts love for the good and beautiful and true, and those high and holy purposes which will make them useful in this world, and lead them to everlasting life and happiness in the world that is to come.

With the principles of truth and duty thus inculcated in their hearts, can we not look forward to right blessings for our Luther League and for our Churches? The time will come when the Juniors will take the place of the Seniors, and it is only by right training of the Juniors that will foretell what the Senior League will be in the future. For just as the twig is bent, the tree is inclined. How careful we must be then of the tender twig, and care for and nourish it, so that when the time comes that it is a full grown tree, it may be found to bear rich fruit, and be worthy of the name—The Luther League.

The work in the Junior League is of great importance. First, because it is largely composed of

children of that age when influences for good or bad are more easily developed than at any other time in life. The child's mind is like wax, and whatever impressions he receives will remain forever.

It is a sad but true fact that many children do not receive the religious training in their homes that they should have. The Sunday School then is called upon to take the place of the parents in religious education, and a child is expected to learn its duty to God and his neighbor in the space of one hour on Sunday. How many children are there whose parents take the time or interest to help them prepare their Sunday School lessons, or upon their return inquire of them what they have learned?

A great responsibility then rests upon the workers in the Junior League, as well as the teachers in the Sunday Schools. I need not say that at times many things arise which are discouraging, and oftentimes the hour seems wasted which is spent in trying to teach them in the way that they should go. However, if we faithfully do our duty, God is sure to give the increase and bless our efforts. Each hath his mission.

If it be my lot to toil, but not to see the fruit which to my toil belong,
I know one whose all-seeing eye my humblest task shall glorify, and He shall make me strong.

Our Church needs more zealous and earnest workers, more young men and young women who will consecrate their lives to the service of the Master, who will take more interest in our Juniors, encourage them in their work, help them in their meetings, and above all to set such an example that will be followed by the Juniors and guide them in the right way.

Let us look diligently after the spiritual welfare of the children of our Church, that they may truly follow in the steps of Him who at the age of twelve was found to be about his Father's business.

To be engaged in our Father's business, what a privilege that is. How thankful we should be that we have that opportunity of being able to do something for the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom on earth.

If the members of the Junior League of to-day then are to be the Senior League of the future, the Sunday School teachers of the future, and I might say the Church Deacons of the future, let us see that the proper methods are employed that the high standard of our League may be realized.

The memorizing of Bible verses is one of the most important things among the Junior League members, they should know well and thoroughly the scriptures, that they may always have the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the Word of God. What a help and comfort these verses will be to them all their lives. If the mind is so stored with the precious truths of God's holy word there will be no room for bad thoughts or wickedness, and when temptations come they will stand firm, having on the breastplate of righteousness.

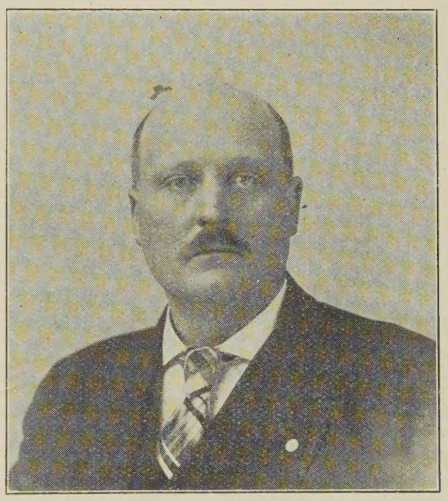
The faith which is implanted in the heart of the child at baptism must be constantly nurtured and strengthened, and how can this be better accomplished than by the Word of God. It will be a great help to the child about to be confirmed, and will aid the growth in grace and strengthen the faith of the child already in the Church.

We read in Paul's Epistle to the Romans, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. And in the Epistle to the Hebrews, "The word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword."

But it is not enough to merely learn the scriptures. The knowledge must be put to practical use. In order to keep themselves unspotted from the world, they must, while still young, visit the widow and the orphan, and to assist in all sorts of charitable works. A sick child of the League or Sunday School is made happy by a visit from one or two of the juniors. The Church may be made more beautiful with flowers gathered by the juniors for the Sunday services, and what will give more joy and pleasure than preparing a box to be sent to some orphan home at Christmas? Besides the giving for missions, and various other purposes, by serving on the committees they are taught their individual responsibility, it encourages the child and gives it a sense of importance in being able to assist in the work of the church, and awakens and develops in them a loyalty which let us hope may constantly grow and increase.

And now a word to the Seniors: "Let your light so shine, that the Juniors may see your good works and glorify our Father which is in Heaven.

Mr. W. H. Rector, of Binghamton, where a flourishing Junior League exists, told of methods to instruct the young, so that they may eventually become intelligent Senior Leaguers, under the title, "The Junior League —Its Opportunity and How to Meet It." The tools to be used in organizing, are the Luther League Hymnal, the Reading Course, Junior Topics, Luther League Handbook, LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW. Let them select their own officers, he said, and change about four times a year. Teach them the names of the books of the Bible and the occupation of the writers. Have them find texts and read them,



MR. W. H. RECTOR.
President of the Luther League of New York State.

adding a brief explanation. Familiarize them with the names of missionaries and their fields of labor.

This paper called forth much discussion, as some felt that, owing to the fact of the disparity of ages of children between 6 and 14, there should be classes or divisions, as in public school work. It proves to be a successful method in Binghamton, where the Junior League has a good attendance.

The General Secretary, Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, then presented greetings from the Luther League of Indiana, where they are 1,000 strong. He urged a large attendance at Chicago, in 1908, where extensive preparations are being made for the entertainment of the National Luther League. After the

singing of "My Faith Looks Up to Thee," the session closed with prayer and benediction.

### Third Session

On Wednesday, at 2 p. m. The devotional services at the beginning of the third session, Wednesday afternoon, was in charge of Rev. Kiever, of Utica. The president appointed the following committees: Nominating Committee: Mr. Fred Ihlo, of New York, chairman; Mr. W. L. Bradt, W. E. Fisher, George Friel, Rev. L. F. Gruber, Mrs. A. R. Pardee, Mr L. F. Smith, F. M. Yenney. Resolutions Committee: Mr. Archibald A. Coney, of Canajoharie, Rev. J. Rechsteiner, Rev. O. W. Krauch, Miss E. Aschoff, Miss F. E. Fellows, Rev. W. Frederick, Miss A. Seal, Rev. E. L. Tucker.

"The Cost of Standing Alone" was the title of a paper by Dr. Frank Wolford, of Middleburgh, who defined clearly the importance of Luther Leagues working together. He said in part:

There are times when, like Luther standing alone at Worms, it is the right thing to do; that is, when standing for a principle. This, however, must not drift into individualism. A League standing aloof from the Central is like an individual saying: "Let me live by myself." There is a loss of fellowship by this standing alone. We need missions as much as they need us and it is the indication of a narrow life to refuse to contribute toward them or to stand aloof. We should not only labor for Christ, but labor with others for Christ. By standing alone in League work we miss some of the privileges of education we might otherwise enjoy. As a summary, he said by not standing alone, but co-operating we secure:

Intensification of aims and purposes;
Multiplied efficiency;
Increased knowledge;
Progressive sympathy;
Brotherly kindness;
Broadened vision;
Development of unused talents.

Stand alone when occasion demands, but in League movements stand together.

An interesting discussion followed, when many helpful thoughts were presented. One spoke of the power through acquaintance and friendship. Another spoke of the apparent harmony existing in the Catholic Church, whereas, in reality, there are more differences than in the Protestant Church. The discussion was listened to with interest. After this followed the reading of Miss S. B. Grauer's paper on "Local Adaptability."

Local adaptability is a very important question in every work. Looking well to the component parts of a structure is what insures stability and beauty of the whole. No matter how much we may admire great things, we must remember the atoms which compose it.

"Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand
Make the mighty ocean
And the beauteous land,"

is a truth learned in childhood and, alas, too often forgotten later in life. It is contempt for small things, weak efforts and indifferent results that has wrecked many an enterprise, and our committee did well to direct the attention of the Convention to the important question of Local Adaptability. What do we mean by this term? Nothing more than adapting local ability to local needs. In the first place, no two locations have exactly the same needs, nor is there in any two localities the same degree of talent to meet these needs. Then, again, the needs in every locality change with the passing of time. These are things which must be remembered. First, that proper organization be effected, and that the object of the Luther League be held clearly in view. This object, which, according to the constitution of the Luther League of America, is "To stimulate the various Young People's Societies to greater Christian activity and to foster the spirit of loyalty to the Church" is a worthy one, and it places great power into the hands of every society so organized.

After organization, comes the question of executing the work for which organization was effected, and here is where local adaptability has its application. To begin with, it is essential that we know the peculiar conditions which surround the Church, and, that we take the proper attitude toward those conditions. Business and society are elements in our religious life of to-day, and we dare not ignore them.

They must be met;
They must be dealt with!

How is this to be done? By one of two methods. The radical method, which uses the scourge and drives the offenders from the House of God; or the conservative, conciliatory method, which seeks to win people from the world and its pleasures to Christ. This is becoming, "All things to all men." That circumstances sometimes justify the one, and then the other must not be doubted. When anything of this nature arises in the field in which we are at work, it behooves us, as faithful Christians, to seek, in love, to banish from the Church any business that is not God's business and any society that does not admit Him as a guest.

Secondly, we must know our associates, our brethren. Do we? Are we striving to become acquainted? Are we seeking to interest them in a Christian way or are we satisfied to allow them to remain mere acquaintances?

To secure their co-operation we must know them. It is recorded of a noted general, that he could call all of his subordinates by name, and history states that this contributed to his success.

But, important as true fellowship is, there rises beyond it the question of the work itself. Thousands—yes, literally, thousands—drop out of religious life and work because they do not know what to do.

They are represented in the parable of the vineyard by those to whom the Lord of the vineyard addressed in the words: "Why stand ye here all the day idle?" and their reply is in a measure a reflection on us: "Because no man hath hired us." Now, let this not be said of us. Let us seek to create the desire in a few hearts at first and then in many, knowing more about the wonderful history of our Church, her life, her doctrine, her government, her mission activities at home and abroad, her inner missions, her orphanages, her old folks' homes and her institutions for other unfortunates. Our publication societies are supplying all the literature needed on these subjects and they are easy of access.

We have a full equipment at hand; all we need is to use it. The greatest difficulty to be encountered is that our young people hesitate to undertake any work for fear of displaying ignorance of their subject. They do not want to study. The vast majority know little or nothing of the doctrine or history of their Church, and many of them know almost as little of their Church book and their Bible.

Local adaptability does not mean becoming a good waiter at an oyster supper, nor does it mean showing skill at a wheel of fortune. We can draw multitudes by these methods, but we are sowing the wind to reap the whirlwind. There were throngs that followed the Saviour out of curiosity, and they were willing to accept the bread and fish which he so mercifully provided, but the doing of His work devolved upon that handful of men in the upper chamber. There are many who are willing to become members of the League so long as it can furnish new pleasures and social devices; but their enthusiasm soon dies when they have tasted these pleasures and they leave the League without having contributed to its strength and without having gained any knowledge of its work or object. They have gone hungry through a field of wheat.

Knowledge in any art or science is a gradual growth and is dependent upon continuous effort, and the same truth applies to efficiency in every department of Church work.

We do not mean to imply that the social life has no place in the work of the League. Experience has shown us that it has and, where wisely directed, social gatherings may be made to contribute largely to the strength of any society.

Summing up—

Local Adaptability means working one's self as well as inducing others to work. It places emphasis upon the individual as the factor which makes all success possible. It brings great questions down to you and to me and demands that you and I solve them.

The Luther League is an unselfish organization. All its hopes, aims and aspirations are for the Church. And why not? For what faith can be more true to the New Testament teaching of Justification by Faith Alone? And what, next to the Bible itself, can inspire our young people to noble actions as the studying of the lives of men who have fought the world, the flesh and the devil and have risen above trials and temptations through the aid of the Cross? May God crown the efforts of all our young people with true success; may we all be loyal to the Church, faithful to the principles of the Luther League, and do what our hands find to do with all our might as unto the Lord.

After the singing of "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," a well-prepared paper on "Planning the League Meeting," by Miss H. K. Maurer, of New York, was read by Mrs. L. F. Gruber, as follows:

Much of the success of League meetings depends upon thorough preparation. This is a fact often lost sight of. Chairmen complain of lack of interest on the part of League members when they themselves are at fault in not imparting enough of the character and object of the meetings to those who are expected to attend. Therefore, one of the first requisites for a well prepared meeting is a carefully worded notice —one which will arouse interest without being sensational—in the parish paper or on a bulletin board (every well conducted League should have and use the bulletin board) or, if it be the custom, such an announcement might also be made from the pulpit well in advance of the meeting.

If the meeting be for business, make it purely business, allow nothing to interfere. Have a regular order of procedure and make it as parliamentary as possible. The President of the League should go over his ground carefully. He should study, by rote if necessary, just what follows. He should anticipate possible issues, and be able to make his rulings quickly and decisively, so that business proceeds briskly.

The President ought to ascertain beforehand just about how his committees are going to report, and, if he be not a fluent talker, he might have a word of praise ready for the committee which has worked well and efficiently, or a word of helpfulness to a committee which is meeting with obstacles, or a word of encouragement where a committee feels a failure, perhaps. Never a word of blame unless there has been an entire absence of any effort to do the work assigned. Many a business meeting would not be voted "Dry" if the President, as part of the planning for the evening's meeting, would insist on each committee reporting its work in full, and not giving merely brief outlines. Of course, he should see that each branch of the League's work has some representative ready to report.

Each and every meeting of the League ought to be social in the sense that each member should greet every other member present. In order to allow time for this, all League meetings should begin promptly so that they may end promptly, and no more work or entertainment should be provided than will comfortably fill the allotted time. Long drawn out meetings are tiresome, and often good results are lost.

Under the title "Social Meetings" is meant those evenings which are to be given over to entertainment and to social intercourse. And there is such a wide range of subjects. The committee in charge should carefully select the subject for the evening's entertainment, and very much might here be said about proper subjects. The sole object of any league meeting should never be to amuse only, nor need it be run to the other extreme and therefore be uninteresting. Nor should its object always be to raise money. In selecting a topic for the evening, a committee must also study the tastes of the members and seek to please. Educating our young people in the history of our Church, fascinating them with the wonderful stories of missionary endeavor, and giving them glimpses into our Church's rich literature, might all prove interesting and instructive for social evenings, if handled properly.

In selecting the subject for the evening's program, the committee in charge should never forget the character of the Luther League, nor its motto—"Of the Church, for the Church, and by the Church." Do not allow your League to be responsible for misspent hours, but make the object of your gathering together a useful one—one which will train your young people to do their duty as Lutherans, and as Christians.

Preparation for such meetings should be made a month or two months in advance. Choose the subject for the evening and make everything revolve around that as a pivot. Have as many as possible take part. The more members who are really active in a League, the better the League is fulfilling its mission.

Every League, to be a true League, must have its Devotional Meetings. If your League neglects these meetings, it is casting away its opportunity; and you who are interested enough to come a great distance to attend this Convention ought to use your influence to bring your League to see its neglect, and remedy it. You may say your League has tried them and your members do not attend. That is no excuse for the League failing to provide the opportunity for those who may want to attend. If but a few attend, the meetings are worth while. The committee should then work all the harder to arouse interest and overcome all obstacles.

In providing for these meetings, the following plan has been found to work well:

Have a committee of eight or twelve, and, if the League is larger, even a more numerous committee may be appointed. Each member of the committee takes charge of an evening's meeting—that is, secures a Leader, and asks two or three members of the League each to write a four or five minute paper. The Leader, who has been asked a month or at least three weeks in advance, takes his topic from the Luther League Topics, which by the way are exceedingly interesting and instructive, and the titles for the papers are taken from the Luther League Review, which each month gives a summary of each topic and suggests questions to be answered in brief papers. With this plan a number of Leaguers are working for each meeting, and the burden of preparation does not fall on a few.

Perhaps a few general remarks which apply to all meetings would not be amiss. Do not expect a meeting to accomplish its purpose unless all details are carefully planned. Just as a tree has as many roots and rootlets below ground which are not seen, as it has branches above ground which are seen, so a League meeting should have as much work precede it which is not noticed by the ordinary observer, as is evidenced by the results of the meeting. Without the quiet, unobserved, unobtrusive work of the roots there would be no branches, no tree, no evidence of any life. Without the careful, systematic work of a committee, whether small or large, there can be no success, no fruitage in any number of meetings.

The Chairman of the committee in charge should do the greater part of the planning, always, of course, consulting his committee, and he is the best Chairman who gets the most work out of the greatest possible number of people.

Finally, in planning for your meeting, ask God's blessing upon your endeavor and if you have faithfully performed your part. He will certainly bless your labor, and you shall see that it has not been in vain.

Invitations for the entertaining of the next convention were received from Albany, Buffalo, Binghamton and Waterloo, Can. It was decided to accept that of Albany.

Subscriptions for 1,045 copies of the convention number of THE REVIEW were received from the districts and Leagues represented.

### Fourth Session

This session was held in the oldest Lutheran church in the city, that of St. John's, Rev. W. Drach, pastor. The liturgical service was conducted by Revs. Drach and Bierdeman. After two pleasantly rendered selections by a quartette. Rev. Hugo W. Hoffman, Ph. D., of Brooklyn, spoke on "Soul Winning —the Supreme Duty of the League." He said in part:

Winning Souls for Christ was primarily the object of the Salvation Army, but it has drifted into humanitarianism and the supplying of the material needs of the people. For the Church to do the greatest good, she must have the humanitarian spirit. Works of charity are the result of faith. The duty of ministers is to win souls, as it is also that of the individual member. When asking what have you done for Christ? the reply often is, "What can I do?" Have you tried? You don't know what you can do till you have tried. Put yourselves in connection with the Lord God and leave the rest to Him. Make of yourself a conductor of power. Better one hundred filled with the love of Christ to evangelize the world, than one million dollars. It needs the sympathy of a human soul to win a soul. After the Iroquois theatre fire in Chicago, one young girl escaping unharmed was much distressed that she had made no attempt to save anyone. "I didn't even try," she repeatedly said. Can this be said of us in regard to soul winning? What have you done? There is too much religious indifference, individual responsibility having faded from the minds of the people. What sort of a Church would my Church be if every member were just like me? He concluded impressively: "Answer before God!"

A solemn mass in G was well rendered by a chorus, as was the offertory solo by Mr. F. O. Bruns.

After the singing of the Luther League Rally Hymn, the service closed with prayer and benediction by Dr. William Baum, of Canajoharie.

### Fifth Session

Rev. P. Altpeter conducted a helpful devotional service on Thursday morning at the opening session.

The report of the Committee on Nominations was received. The secretary was empowered to cast one ballot for the following officers: Pres., W. H. Rector, of Binghamton; treas., Fred Ihlo, of New York City; rec. sec., F. M. Yenney, of Syracuse; cor. sec., D. W. P. Meyerholz, of Brooklyn; stat. secy., Miss F. E. Fellows, of New York City; archivarius, Rev. E. L. Tucker, of Syracuse.

The newly-elected president, in a few well-chosen words, showed that he had the League's welfare at heart. The Statistical Secretary begged that letters be answered promptly in order to facilitate the work.

The Auditing Committee's report was accepted, as well as that of the Committee on Reports and Resolutions, as follows:

Your Committee on Reports recommend the adoption of the following items:

The four recommendations contained in the President's report.

That we approve the emphasis laid upon the necessity of all Leaguers subscribing for and reading the Review.

That we commend our Statistical Secretary, Mr. Rector, for his painstaking labor in making up his report so full of items all needed for a complete summary of our Luther League work.

RESOLUTION.

When a Convention assembles in a community a vast amount of work is entailed upon those who have volunteered to entertain such a body. Inasmuch as we are greatly indebted to the Leaguers of this City, we herewith resolve: That we appreciate to the utmost the special preparations our friends have made for our convenience and comfort. That the Leaguers of this City are worthy of great praise in exerting themselves to such an extent as to entertain the Convention so comfortably and satisfactorily. That we rejoice in the prosperous condition of the Luther Leagues of Syracuse, and that we hope they may continue to grow in number and usefulness.

That we thank the choirs of the Churches for the exceedingly fine music they have furnished for our evening meetings.

That we are indebted to our Church papers for affording us ample space for the accounts of our proceedings and that we likewise appreciate the courtesy of the local papers' reports of our Convention.

And, last, but by no means least, that we appreciate the work of our most worthy President, Mr. J. M. Reynolds, who during four years has filled his office so acceptably to us all, has done a vast amount of work in behalf of our State League, and has not spared himself in his devotion to the League's highest interest.

ARCHIBALD A. CONEY,
REV. WALTER FREDERICK,
REV. JOSEPH RECHSTEINER,
FLORENCE E. FELLOWS,
ADELINE M. ASCHOFF.

Rev. A. H. Graves, of Schenectady, then spoke on "A Mooted Question—Practical League Work." He said in part:

There are three kinds of workers:

1. Efficient ones;
2. Jerkers, or Convention fiends;
3. Shirkers, who absorb like a sponge, and do no work at home.

Make everyone work; keep everyone at work. An important committee is the Prayer Meeting or Devotional Committee. The object of the Social Committee should be the furthering of the spiritual interests of those with whom they come in contact. The Look-out Committee—loyal, earnest Christians looking out for others and gathering in for the building up of the Society. As you work in the local, you will work in the district and in the Central League. Let us understand the work of the League and then act. Our associates won't believe our Church is any better than we ourselves consider it. The future of the Church of the Reformation depends on you.

Discussion followed as to how best to instruct the young people.

After the singing of "The Church's One Foundation," the president announced the appointment of the following committees:

Executive Committee: Mr. E. A. Hieber, Rev. Sibole, Mr. I. S. Runyon, Mr. J. M. Reynolds, Mr. Manger, Mr. Bradt. Literary Committee: Mr. I. S. Runyon. Extension

Committee: Mr. J. M. Reynolds. Credentials Committee: Mr. W. Bradt. Press Committee: Mr. Mayer.

Under the heading, "Three Thoughts from Canton," Rev. O. W. Krauch, of Albany, felt that there particular stress had been laid on the exaltation of the Word in the life of the individual. Mr. Runyon's paper was read by Mr. Forster as follows:

"Practical thoughts" have been assigned to me. The most strictly practical is probably the financial question, so I will begin with that.

This subject was presented at some length by the Finance Committee. It was stated that the response to the per capita apportionment was not sufficient to meet the needs, and a more generous response was urged. The committee pledged itself to recommend a reduction of the rate to five cents per member as soon as the receipts from the apportionment are large enough to admit of such a reduction. The committee's report was adopted, and the ten cent rate affirmed. The Committee on Resolutions urged careful consideration of this question, stating its opinion that 40,000 young people ought not to find difficult the proper support of a work so valuable to them.

The question of Topics was among those which received much, and most serious, attention. The President recommended "that the 'Topics' be simplified both in subjects and treatment," and the Committee on Reports and Resolutions, in harmony with this recommendation, amended the Topics Committee's plan of Topics for 1908 and 1909 by substituting eight practical Topics for four Missionary and four Historical. This modification, with the simpler treatment whch the committee has promised, ought to put the Topics within the reach of practically every League.

Among the delegates there was a very urgent demand for a scheme of Topics, especially for the Juniors. Up to this time the Executive Committee had not granted a similar request that had come from certain quarters, because the demand had not been widely enough distributed. But at the Convention it developed such strength that the commitee was convinced that a trial of the idea was the wisest course. Hence, a recommendation to this effect was made and received the approval of the Convention. It is probably known to you all that the first issue of these Topics appeared some time ago, from the hands of a committee headed by Rev. C. Elvin Haupt, D. D., who has long been identified with the Junior work.

The Statistical Secretary reported that the League numbers 14 State Leagues, with 47 District and 885 Local organizations, numbering 46,651 members. This represents a net gain of 2 State, 8 District, and 121 Local Leagues, and 5,881 members.

There was much good natured rivalry for the Convention of 1908. Invitations were presented on behalf of Richmond, Va., Lancaster, Pa., and Chicago. The Chicago delegation had come to Canton armed with campaign buttons and literature setting forth the advantages of their city for conventions, and so well was their cause presented that when the vote was taken they won by a substantial majority.

The incident last mentioned is significant. The West is enthusiastic and is grasping the League idea with vigor and firmness. The membership in that section is rapidly increasing. If New York State is to maintain her position in the van of the forces, she needs to foster her elements of strength. She must use all possible means to develop her men and her latent resources. Let us extend the League idea to every open field.

Rev. E. H. Boettger's paper was read by Miss Stern, of Buffalo.

It is difficult to select any one of the many excellent and beautiful thoughts expressed at the Canton Convention and point to it as more worthy of consideration than the others, scintillating as they were with life and light and pronounced in pith and point. I shall not attempt to do it, but instead I shall give you my impressions of the Convention and the conclusions reached.

It seemed to me, as we were speeding homeward from Canton, that conventions, and especially Luther League Conventions, are like the conflux and commingling of many waters. From all directions streams flow towards a common center, into one large body; the body remains, the streams flow on and out through one or many channels.

Streams hold in suspension much that is good and valuable—gold, minerals and other matter—and, therefore, not only refresh the lands they touch, but enrich both soil and people directly and indirectly. The water will give up its treasures under proper conditions if men know how to extract them.

Water may be unstable but so is human nature, and water in motion is a power, and when directed into proper channels becomes an overwhelming force.

The Leagues, speaking of them and their members as individuals, as units of the whole, their life, activity, work, influence, may be likened unto flowing streams of greater or lesser magnitude, some moving smoothly, contentedly gurgling, some splashing their loudest as they essay to leap from rock to rock, from difficulty to obstruction and on. They touch much ground in their progress and yet very little; they reach out and widen as streams do; they appear big and feel bigger; they seem quite like torrents to themselves, and in truth often are torrents of life and power; they are busy, too often busy merely making a noise which awakens echoes but leaves no permanent impression.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH.
Where the closing session was held.

Not until the streams strike the mill-wheel does their usefulness become apparent and their power of advantage and profit to men. Not until those waters have passed the wheel and broaden and deepen do they realize how small and insignificant they were before. But when they have met in the lake, they join forces with other waters, they mix and begin to move back and forth and up and down; the storm arises—the convention is in session, the delegates mix and begin to act; they become a power, a destructive power if you please, to opposition, to ignorance, to indifference; the best that is in them is stirred up, the best qualities become apparent, thoughts are aired, and there is brought to the surface the pure gold, the desire to accomplish things for Christ. But all the while they are moving to-

ward the outlet. The convention is ended and the delegates go out in all directions to drive many a mill wheel, to offer a means of navigation to the Old Ship—the Church—to carry new life to their borders, new energy, new enthusiasm, new wealth, the riches of enlivening faith, at last, as the waters find their way into the ocean, to meet in the great convention of saints, the company of the redeemed, at the throne of the Lamb.

The Canton Convention voiced one great central thought and aired it thoroughly: *Educate*, EDUCATE, and, again, EDUCATE! This thought was presented in a multitude of guises and disguises. I shall not take any one of them and turn it about and view it from all sides allowing the beautiful coloring to play upon you, nor shall I attempt to introduce any improvement upon it. I want to express in my own way the effect the "convention thought" should have upon Leagues and their members.

Where there is education action must follow. You educate a child in certain household duties and that child will do them when called upon. If you do not teach that child how to bake bread how can you say to it: "Bake bread." It will answer: "Don't know how." There is the root of the matter. Ask your League member to prepare a paper and the answer follows: "Don't know how." Ask one of your workers to lead the meeting to-night; answer: "Don't know how." Why? "Never did it before." Why? "Nobody ever taught me, but I am willing to learn."

Who would think of giving the boy an example in cube root when he has not yet mastered addition? Who can expect members to do the cube root of League work when he has not yet mastered the addition of it—let us say the a d d i t i o n of members?

Who would ask a person to write an original poem just because he has committed to memory a stanza or two of a hymn? Would it not be better to teach that person the rules of verse making first? You can't teach him to be a poet, he must be born one, and the League worker must be born into the work by the fire of the Holy Ghost. Who would expect the member to say great things for the League in meetings or otherwise just because he has learned to say "yes" when you asked him to join? Would it not be better to show him the rules of membership, and teach him step by step until he can do his little part acceptably? You can never put the soul of a poet or genius or Leader into him if it is not born there, but you can make him a useful member by training him to do his part of the work.

And you, League member, go to school and learn of those who know the work, and study diligently so that your marks may go up from 50 to 80 or 90—don't try to reach the hundred mark all at once. If your teacher says: "Be loyal," why then be loyal and shout aloud for your League, and if you have nothing to shout about then stop others from raising their voices against it. Know this: When your teacher, let us say your Leader, or pastor, says, "be loyal," he means that you should be altogether loyal. If you divide your loyalty you divide your forces; if you divide your forces you divide your strength; if you divide your strength you are in nothing strong but are a weakling.

If you cannot, absolutely cannot give all your loyalty to your League then I beg of you do not walk around the pan like a hen that has just returned from the neighbor's wheatfield where she had no business to be and peck, just peck, at the food in the pan and strut about in a self-satisfied, supercilious way. That hen is in the way of others that are hungry and that would eat to satisfy their hunger.

If you have a voice, no matter if it is not trained at first, use it in your meetings. Don't sit still and say nothing. Say something! What if you do make a mistake? You will learn, and knowledge is power. If you say nothing, you may make no mistakes, but you will also not learn. I would not trust my life to a person who is afraid to learn.

But remember this: Words may leave a trail on the mind, written words on the pages of a book but acts, activity, action in League work will leave a trail in the lives of men, in the history of the Church, and will be a power for good that shall endure.

I do not want to give you any advice as to the "how" of your work. I cannot do that. I want to warn you against too much activity lest it detract from the work of the congregation. But allow me to say this: Do not say when the work is to be done, "I have no time." Why, Dr. Haas told us at Canton that we ought to create time—advice that most assuredly can be carried out.

I said that I would not tell you how to do the work of the League, but perhaps I had better do so after all. Here it is, it is quite simple; it is the easiest way in the world. You are waiting for it, here it is: Go to work—that's all. Just go to work.

Rev. Hays, of Cobleskill, pronounced the benediction.

### Thursday Afternoon

In the afternoon the Syracuse District League treated the delegates to an enjoyable ride around the city in chartered trolley cars, when the following places were visited: Elmwood, the Valley, Bellevue Heights, Solvay, and the University of Syracuse, with its famous stadium.

### Sixth Session

The closing session was held on Reformation Day in St. Peter's Church, Rev. R. Schmitt, pastor. The Liturgical Service was conducted by the pastor and Rev. L. Gruber, of Utica. After an enjoyable anthem by the choir and a soprano solo by Miss Huldah Boullee, Dr. J. B. Remensnyder, of New York, spoke forcefully on "The Hour and Its Needs."

He mentioned the fact that this service celebrated the nailing of the Ninety-five Theses on the church door at Wittenberg, and he whose heart does not leap at the thought of this action, must be devoid of feeling. Never dreaming of the wonderful result of his deed, Luther went out alone with his hammer. Greatest actions are born in silence. He who walks the regal paths of thought, must often walk alone.

This is the time of the dissemination of intelligent knowledge, an age of independent thinking. Science encroaching on religion and philosophy, this is the age of the decline of faith. The Catholic Church does not meet the needs of the time, nor does superstitious faith, nor emotional methods, but the Lutheran Church, with her antiquity, the Mother of Protestantism, with her fidelity to God's Word, with her just conception of the Sacraments as means of grace, with her educational system in religion, and with her beautiful liturgic order, is ideally fitted for the needs of the hour. Young Lutherans need an intelligent faith, for, you can only meet an intelligent scepticism with an intelligent faith. The Reading Course helps to meet this need. In the words of District Attorney Jerome, "Make good your claim" by proving your faith by your works. There can be no promise, no beauty without effort. After the battle comes the victory, after the sacrifice the reward.

One of the characteristics of our modern age is lay activity. We need not only a Henry of Navarre, but we need also a Joan of Arc, with her white flag fluttering, on which is the cross of Christ. We need more Church love. We have numbers, but we need enthusiasm. We need piety to have true Church love. Phillips Brooks said: "He loves his own Church most who loves the Church universal." We should give ourselves as well as our money. We need unity. As strands are stronger in a cable, notes sweeter in a chord, and colors fairer in a rainbow, so the union of the various

(*Continued on page 26.*)

# Luther League of Minnesota

## Ninth Annual Convention at Minneapolis, October 15-17

BY LYDIA T. LAGERSTROM

THE ninth annual convention of the Luther League of Minnesota convened in Salem English Evangelical Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Rev. G. H. Trabert, D. D., pastor, at 8 o'clock, Tuesday evening, October 15.

The vesper service was conducted by Dr. Trabert, who also delivered the address of welcome. Mr. S. H. Holstad, president of the State League, responded. The choir of Salem Church then rendered a cantata, "Penitence. Pardon and Peace." The service closed with an offertory and vespers.

### Second Session

On Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock the first business session was called. The devotional services were conducted by Rev. N. Y Peterson, Northfield. The roll was called and the Committee on Credentials was announced. Later committees on the president's report, on resolutions and an auditing committee were also announced.

The president's report was then given, followed by reports of other officers. Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, general secretary of the Luther League of America, addressed the convention.

Resolutions were passed as follows:

1. Fixing the hours of adjournment.

2. That the convention in a body visit the Lutheran Hospital recently opened in Minneapolis.

3. That the matter of selecting ten delegates and ten alternates to the National Luther League Convention be left with the Executive Committee.

### Third Session

The Wednesday afternoon session opened at 2 o'clock with devotional service.

The convention topic was "Serving the Lord." "Preparation for Service" was the subject of the first paper, read by Mr. Edward Rorem, of St. Olaf's College, Northfield. In part, he said in substance as follows:

Service of the Lord is different from all other kinds of service. We are not able to prepare ourselves; we must permit ourselves to be prepared by Him. In proportion as we give ourselves to the Lord will our service in His kingdom be great and successful. History bears testimony of this. All nations and all times will ever look with gratitude to the great and noble service of the Apostle Paul.

Preparation for service consists essentially in giving ourselves more and more to Christ. Intellect and power of leadership are gifts to thank God for, but the more vital and greater power is the love of Christ. It is the love and sincerity and humility of Jesus Christ displayed in our words and acts that make us most fit for the service of the Lord. Jesus Christ was a servant; his life, an ideal service. Let us look to Him often. Most important of all is an abundant measure of the spirit of the love of Christ.

To serve the Lord with joy and gladness should be our highest aim. The most difficult place to serve the Lord is in the home. People think that the duty to God is ended after the morning devotion. But that act is only the key to the day, a jewel which we should hold precious.

"As ye have done to the least of these" is easier to apply to others than to ourselves in the home. Our best service to the Lord should be in our home. There are those to be comforted, guided, and led in the home; there are opportunities for each of us. Give your share of help to others; do good with a Christ-like spirit; but see the duties that lie nearest first. The atmosphere of the home is manifested by

A GROUP OF DELEGATES.

the members of the home. One need come in contact with but one member of a home to judge the temperament of that home. In the ideal home each one esteems the other higher than himself. It seems greater to do things outside the home; but conquering one's temper is greater than accomplishing a heroic deed. We should make home what the Lord meant to make it—an influence far-reaching in its effects.

Attendance at public worship where the service consists of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving would be the first service. Service in the Sunday School as pupil, teacher, or officer would be the second place one would select for service. In the Luther League there is another opportunity for serving the Lord. Then in the congregation at large, when the young man or woman has become of age, is a broader field. If trained in the Sunday School and Luther League, and in the catechetical class, the young member is a valuable acquisition to the service. Attendance upon the annual meeting of the congregation and taking part in the deliberations is a part of our service. There is no better way to become enthusiastic and actually anxious to help push the work of the Church than by attending an annual congregational meeting. What most of us need is to be informed of what is being done and the needs of the Church. Ignorance of these things is what makes us indifferent.

For those who have a special gift, the choir is another place of service.

Of charitable work there is much in the Church, and helpers are needed.

It is better for us to choose certain lines of activity—two or three spheres of activity or service—than to scatter our energies.

"Serving the Lord in Our Business" was the phase of the convention topic treated by Harry S. Swenson, Esq.

Business life presents the greatest temptation because it bears so close a relationship to the material well-being of the citizen. Where there is wealth there is the danger of forgetting the higher precepts. It is all-important that the Lord should walk hand in hand with the business man.

A discussion of the papers followed. The session closed with a benediction pronounced by Rev. T. H. Dahl.

SALEM CHURCH, MINNEAPOLIS.
Where convention was held.

### Fourth Session

The Wednesday evening session began at 8 o'clock. The vesper service was conducted by Rev. Luther Malmberg. Rev. Prof. C. O. Solberg, of St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn., delivered an address on "The Joy and Reward of the Faithful Servant."

Rev. Mr. Waldeland, president of the Southern Minnesota and Northern Iowa Luther League, presented the greetings of that district to the convention.

Mr. Frank Nelson, president of Minnesota College, Minneapolis, in the capacity of president of the Swedish Young People's Society of the Minnesota Conference, also greeted the convention in a brief address.

The choir during the evening rendered two excellent anthems to the enjoyment of every one present.

### Fifth Session

At the Thursday morning session, begun at 10 o'clock, the discussion of the convention topic was resumed. The devotional service was conducted by Mr. Edward Nervig, president of the Twin City Luther League.

Mr. H. J. Glenn, Northfield, read a paper "Serving the Lord with Our Prayers and Gifts."

The beautiful story of Hannah and her little God-given Samuel illustrates the topic: Prayer comes first.

How can I serve God through prayer? All service must eventuate in the furthering of God's kingdom. First, in my own home; secondly, in the world at large. Pray much, pray earnestly, humbly, and your heart will become more and more like the heart of God, and you will be rendering Him the greatest service.

Giving played a large part in the Old Testament religion. The sacrifices demanded the best, and the worshipper was glad to give it. The tithe was the order of the day. The people gave so that the magnificent temple of Solomon could be built. The people learned to give, and the wealth of that time cannot be compared with that of to-day. The Church people of to-day own one-fifth of the world's wealth. What a revolution would take place if our Church people could loosen the purse strings enough to give one-tenth! Some say they have nothing. In nine cases out of ten that is not so. But even if it is true, take a lesson from Hannah, and pray that you might get something to give. But be sure you give it. Some complain that they have so little to give; others give so much. Do not worry about others: they will not give too much.

Then, if you have not money, give of your time. Give what you have.

Many say they give—to pastors' salary, to the general Church fund, to the orphans' homes, to our Church schools, to our home and foreign missions. It sounds like the pharisee who went up into the temple to pray. But are our Church people in America giving so much? If every member of the Church of Christ here were to give a penny a week to the foreign missionary enterprise it would aggregate $10,000,000 a year. We are now giving only $7,000,000. The average Protestant Christian in America gives only three-fifths of a cent a week. If we could reach the point where we cared enough to put a postage stamp a week into it we should give $20,000,000. If we put a street-car fare a week into it, it would be $50,000,000. We now give only the equivalent of three minutes a week of our time for the redemption of over a billion souls. Christian friends, shall we not leave this convention with the resolve to be more faithful in both praying and giving? God grant that we may!

"Serving the Lord as a Deaconess" was discussed by Sister Bothilda Swensen, of Minneapolis. The various fields of the activities of the deaconess were enumerated. Special emphasis was laid upon the parish work; that is, the work of aiding the pastor of the congregation.

The session closed with the Lord's Prayer.

### Sixth Session

On Thursday afternoon the convention continued at 2 o'clock. The minutes of the previous sessions were read and approved.

The final report of the Committee on Credentials was received. One central league and twenty-one out of the twenty-five leagues belonging to the State League were represented. Two local leagues were admitted to membership; namely, Salem Luther League of Albert Lea, and St. Olaf Luther League of Austin.

Copies of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW and the Luther League Topics were distributed, and the Luther League Reading Courses were displayed and advocated.

The officers elected were as follows: President, Prof. Paul G. Schmidt, St. Olaf College, Northfield; rec. sec., Miss Helga Peterson, Minneapolis; cor. sec., Miss Lydia T. Lagerstrom, Minneapolis; treas., Mr. John Priebe, Minneapolis; stat. sec., Mr. M. Hegland, United Church Seminary, St. Paul.

The statistical secretary's final report was received and adopted.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions was adopted as follows:

1. Resolved, That the convention extend a vote of thanks to the executive committee and especially to President Halstad for looking after the interests of the State League under the adverse conditions of the past year, and that all the official acts of said committee be hereby approved.
2. Resolved, That the executive committee be authorized to revise the constitution and report at the next annual convention and that the executive committee be instructed to make use as much as possible, of the new model constitution to be published by the national executive committee.
3. Resolved, That, inasmuch as the ten-cent per capita tax is unpaid by most of our Leagues, the local leagues belonging to the State organization be asked to take up a collection in the near future, and that the money thus obtained be sent directly to the national treasurer, John F. Dinkey, Rochester, New York.
4. Resolved, That the treasurer of the State League be instructed to pay, as soon as possible, into the national treasury, the dues which the State League is owing.
5. Resolved, That inasmuch as the "Luther League Review" is a valuable medium for keeping the local League in touch with the State and national organization, and thus an important factor in creating and preserving interest in Luther League work, it is hereby recommended that each local League appoint a committee to work for extending the circulation of this paper among its members.
6. Resolved, That the corresponding secretary be hereby instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to every local League affiliated with the State organization.
7. Resolved, That the attention of the executive committee be called to the necessity of extension work throughout the State.
8. Resolved, That we urge all our Leagues to use

The report of the Auditing Committee was also received.

The members of the convention and visitors were tendered a reception by the Salem League at the parsonage. Following the reception and refreshments, the conventioners took a trolley trip to the Lutheran Hospital.

### Seventh Session

The rally meeting of the convention was the closing session on Thursday evening. The processional was followed by vespers, conducted by Rev. G. H. Schiner.

The closing convention address was delivered by the general secretary of the Luther League of America, Rev. Luther M. Kuhns. Following the offertory and the anthem by the choir, the pastor of Salem conducted the closing vesper service.

The singing of the Luther League Rally Hymn closed the best attended convention of the Luther League of Minnesota.

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### Worth Remembering

*Passing Dates.*—Nov. 6. Death of the "Snow King," Gustavus Adolphus, of Sweden, on the battlefield of Luetzen, not far southeast from Halle in Saxony. On that very morning the king joined in the hymn before the battle, "Fear Not, O Little Flock, the Foe." He was nearly thirty-eight years old at his death.

November 10, 1483. Luther's birthday.

November 25, 1742. Arrival in Philadelphia, Pa., of the Halle missionary, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg. With his coming the organization of the Lutheran Church in America began.

November 29, 1705. Missionaries Ziegenbolg and Pleutschau sail for India.

November 30, 1905. Thanksgiving Day, set apart by the National Government for returning thanks to the Triune God for all His benefits toward us.

*Coming Dates.*—December 9. King Gustavus Adolphus, of Sweden, born in 1594.

December 10, 1520. The papal letter, or "bulla," dismissing Martin Luther from the Romish Church, burned by him in public at Wittenberg's gate.

December 25. The festival of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Saviour. His coming is the great cause of the gratitude of man to God. Every gift should remind us of Him.

December 29, 1809. Birth of William E. Gladstone, England's "Grand Old Man."

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Let us try to improve the world we are in by overcoming profanity with pure language, intemperance with sobriety, doubt with trust, and gloom with cheerfulness and content.

### A Decisive Battle and Its Hero

(*Continued from page 8.*)

would surrender, for how could their weakened forces withstand another conflict?

The occasion certainly made the man in the case of Colonel Bouquet, whose fertile mind had, during the night, conceived a masterly strategem, which has gone in history as the means of achieving one of the greatest victories of modern times. The plans were those of the brave Swiss colonel, but they needed the assistance of his soldiers and civilians, chief among the latter being Andrew Byerly, to carry them out. Two companies formed the portion of the circle which were to fall back to the center of the camp, while the remaining circle spread out to fill up the gaps. The Indians mistook this for a retreat, and with wild excitement rushed upon their prey, but, alas, from a depression behind trees rushed the remainder of the circle, who fought fiercely, with bayonets, which the Indians were unable to withstand.

Bouquet had yet two other companies in hiding, and the fleeing enemy rushed wildly into the net. Many Indians were killed and others scattered in confusion. The companies then united for the final struggle to utterly subdue the enemy, and when all was over there was not a living redman on the field. Sixty dead victims, and among these prominent chiefs and warriors, was the only evidence of the terrible contest. Although Bouquet lost eight officers and one hundred and fifteen men within the short space of thirteen hours, the ensign of victory might well be lifted above the field of glory, for the dream of Pontiac's supremacy in the Western world was now forever at an end. The weakened army encamped at Bushy Run the night after the battle, and on the morrow started for Fort Pitt, twenty-four miles west from the battlefield. All along the route they were annoyed more or less by the Indians, but no serious harm was done. At last, the victorious army reached their destination, Fort Pitt, wherein awaited many of the settlers of the Western frontier, anxious to hear the news from the front and be cheered and strengthened. The old fort is gone, but the famous old block house shown in the engraving, built by Col. Henry Bouquet, at the fork of the Ohio, in 1764, when he made his second expedition, is still standing, and is now owned by the Daughters of the American Revolution of Allegheny County.

The 120th anniversary of the battle of Bushy Run, classed by historian Parkman as one of the decisive battles of the world, was celebrated on the field of victory, August 6, 1883, and the number of persons who attended was estimated at 20,000. The celebration was originated by Rev. Cyrus Cort, a Reformed minister, living at Apollo, Pa., one of the descendants of Andrew Byerly, who achieved fame in the Bushy Run contest. At the last session of the Pennsylvania Legislature a bill was introduced for the erection of a monument to the memory of Colonel Bouquet. The bill was vetoed by the Governor because of lack of funds.

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### Honesty Prevailed

A miser having lost £100 promised £10 reward to any one who should bring it to him. A poor man found and restored it to the miser, and demanded the reward; but the old man, in order to baffle him, alleged there were £110 in the bag when he lost it. The poor man, however, was advised to sue for the money; and when the case came on to be tried, it appeared that the seal had not been broken, nor the bag ripped, and the judge said to the defendant's counsel: "The bag you lost had £110 in it, you say?"

"Yes, sir."

"Then," said the judge, "according to the evidence given in court, this cannot be your money, for here is only £100; therefore, the plaintiff must keep it till the owner appears."

Verdict accordingly, with costs.

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A writer gives this definition of life: "To make others happy, to fill life with the splendor of generous acts, to discard error, to destroy prejudice, to receive new truths with gladness, to cultivate hope, to see the calm beyond the storm, the dawn beyond the night, to do the best that can be done and then to be resigned."

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A silver medal has been given to James Nield, of Blackburn, England, who ran from a burning house, but on hearing the screams of his baby brother returned, went upstairs into a blazing bedroom and rescued the child. James is five years old.

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The most direct and convenient way to learn about the Constitution of the Luther League and its work is to read the new "Handbook". It has much information and help not found in the old edition.

# Luther League of Wisconsin

### Ninth Convention at Kenosha, October 8-9

THE annual Convention of the Luther League of Wisconsin was held October 8-9, in Grace Church, Kenosha, the Rev. P. E. Baisler, pastor. It was a notable convention in many ways, in the opinion of many the best yet held. The convention city and church left nothing to be desired, the welcome and hospitality were hearty, the various addresses and discussions of superior order of excellence. It was a privilege to be there. Wisconsin Luther League is small only in numbers, and there is good reason to believe that even that disadvantage will not long exist.

The convention assembled for its first session at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, October 8. After President Rev. H. K. Gebhart's opening address, in which he reviewed the year's work, the routine business was disposed of. The remainder of the morning session was devoted to an object lesson on the proper way of conducting Luther League meetings. Dr. W. K. Frick, of Milwaukee, took charge and the delegates and visitors present were constituted a "Model Luther League" to consider the "Model Luther League Topic," "Self-Sacrifice in Giving," based upon II Cor. 9:1-15. Different phases of the subject were assigned to various speakers and Scripture was constantly appealed to to support every position.

At 7:30 Tuesday evening the delegates, together with an audience that filled the church, gathered to unite in the Vesper service and listen to two addresses: "Why Not Enter the Ministry?" by the Rev. Gustav Stearns, of Milwaukee, and "Some Luther League Thoughts at Random," by the Rev. H. R. Gold, of Madison. Rev. Stearns' address was an exhaustive and powerful treatment of this particularly timely topic, meeting and answering objections frequently urged by young men against the pastoral calling. Rev. Gold's address had to do with the League as a conservative educational factor in resolving the difficulties, scientific, philosophical and religious, now most prominent.

GRACE CHURCH, KENOSHA.
Where sessions of the convention were held.

After the transaction of business, which we will speak of elsewhere, the morning session

Wednesday was given over to the discussion of a carefully prepared paper on "How to Spread the Cause," by Mr. Oyvind Noerr, of Stoughton. The paper had to do with methods of increasing membership and stimulating interest in the local League. It was particularly valuable as based upon experience in the large and flourishing League at Stoughton. The discussion was freely participated in by many present. Personal work of the right Lutheran sort was given the emphasis.

The afternoon session was devoted to the general topic: "Our Young People." Four speaker presented papers: Miss Mame Johnson, of Kenosha, "Youth Is the Time to Serve the Lord"; Miss Elsie Nygaard, of Oshkosh, "Dangers of American Youth"; Mr. Fred Rapps, of Racine, "What Can the Luther League Do to Save Our Youth?" Mr. Frank Paeske, of Milwaukee, "Youth and the Church." Space is lacking for adequate consideration of these papers, and brief characterization is unsatisfactory business. There was not a mediocre, commonplace paper in the whole convention, nor one that could not be listened to. Wisconsin Lutherans have great reason to be proud of the brains and faithfulness of their young people. There was evidence of thought and careful preparation in everything presented. Through the courtesy of Mr. Simmons, of Kenosha, the Leaguers were privileged to spend an hour or two in a visit to the biggest bed factory in the world.

The Wednesday evening session closed the convention. Again a large audience joined in the beautiful Vespers. Special music by the Grace Church choir and soloists added enjoyment to the evening. The speakers were the Rev. A. S. Hamilton, of Milwaukee, and the Rev. Wm. Eckert, of Racine. The former spoke on "Books and Reading for Young People." Books are determining factors in character-building. There is an awful menace in the frivolous, irreverent and often positively vicious character of contemporary literature which is devoured today in incredibly large quantities. The speaker laid down safe principles of guidance in this very important matter. Rev. Eckert spoke on "Darkest Chicago and Her Waifs," illustrating his address with appropriate stereopticon views. To one who has never actually seen how great multitudes in our great cities live these pictures were a revelation and came with a force which mere words could hardly convey. There is a large field in this direction for the kind of work that Christ did lying open to our city Leagues.

And so ended the 1907 Convention of the Wisconsin League, a convention full of enjoyment, inspiration and food for thought. The report of the credentials committee showed thirteen locals and one district League represented at the convention. One new League, that of St. Paul's Church, Waterloo, was received into membership. Reports of the officers showed progress along all lines. The State League is expecting accessions at any time which may increase its membership several-fold. According to the report of the General Secretary many local Leagues are reluctant to affiliate themselves with the State organization until the district to which they belong takes such action—which action is expected to be taken quite generally before long. Mention must here be made of the pleasant reception given by the people of Grace Church to the delegates and visitors after the Tuesday evening session. The officers elected for the coming year are: President, Rev. Wm. Eckert, of Racine; vice-president, Rev. G. Keller Rubrecht, of Milwaukee; recording secretary, Geo. W. Rapps, of Milwaukee; general secretary, Rev. Gustav Stearns, of Milwaukee; treasurer, Miss Jennie Outmans, of LaCrosse. The next convention will be held in the Church of the Redeemer, at Milwaukee.

REV. WILLIAM ECKERT.
President of the Luther League of Wisconsin.

# Luther League of Iowa

## Fourth Annual Convention at Thor, September 24-26

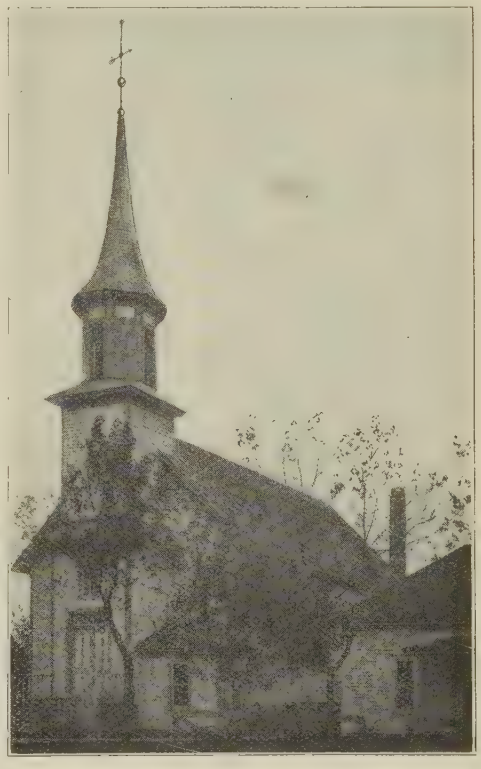
BY O. J. VILAND

THE Fourth Annual Convention of The Luther League of Iowa was held in the Ullensvang Lutheran Church, September 24-26, 1907. It was in many respects the best convention in the history of the League. The spacious church was well filled at all sessions and much interest in the work was manifested. At the opening session on Tuesday evening, Rev. G. A. Sovde, on behalf of the Ullensvang congregation, the local League and the people of Thor and vicinity, extended to delegates and visitors a cordial welcome, to which Rev. A. Shefveland, of Huxley, responded on behalf of the State League.

Rev. Gustav Stearns, of Milwaukee, was introduced and preached the convention sermon, taking as his text III Cor. xii: 1-9. He gave a clear and forceful presentation of Gospel truth, and pastors and Luther League workers were admonished to remain faithful in the Lord's service and not to cease in their activities though they met with many hindrances and much discouragement in the work.

At the Wednesday morning session, Rev. H. F. Martin, of Muscatine, gave a scripture exposition on Rom. xii: 1-2, laying great stress on the need of consecration. A spirited discussion followed and several speakers voiced the great need in our Church of more young men, who would be willing to forsake all and, as ministers of the Gospel, go out and work in the Lord's vineyard. Of equal importance with this is the ministry of mercy, which calls for young women to choose the deaconess calling and render service to the sick and the suffering, seeking to alleviate distress and bring healing to body and soul. The convention was favored with the presence of two deaconesses, Sister Malinde Monsen, of St. Peter's Church, Sioux City, and Sister Osa Oppedahl, of Radcliffe. The former addressed the convention at the Wednesday evening session on "Influencing Others for Christ." The large audience was deeply impressed as the opportunities for service werte set forth, and it is our hope and prayer that many young men and women to whom this appeal was made may find that the call means them, and that they may be willing to say, "Here am I, send me."

Prof. J. L. Neve, D.D., of the Western Theological Seminary, was to have addressed the convention on "The Attitude of Surrounding Denominations to Our Lutheran Church," but an accident prevented him from being present. He forwarded his manuscript, which was read by Rev. Martin at the afternoon session. The doctrinal differences of the various denominations and their practices were clearly set forth. Our Church differs from the reformed churches in fundamental doctrinal principles and therefore has a right to exist as a separate church organization, and can not consider any proposition to unite with these bodies except on a Biblical basis. She recognizes a Christian Brotherhood, which includes members of other Christian churches, but seeks to develop in her members a spirit of church loyalty and faithfulness in the support of her own Church work.



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THOR.
Where convention was held.

At the close of the Wednesday evening session, delegates and visitors were tendered a reception in the basement of the church, where a delightful social hour was spent.

Thursday morning the business session of the convention was held. Dr. W. H. Blancke, who so efficiently has served as president of the League since its organization at Fort Dodge three years ago, was hindered from being in attendance. Rev. H. F. Martin presided over the convention. Election of officers for the ensuing year had the following result: President, Rev. H. F. Martin, Muscatine; recording secretary, Miss Mary Alice Fiesler, Iowa City; corresponding secretary, O. J. Viland, Slater; treasurer, Miss Clara M. Vollmer, Burlington.

The reports of the various officers and committees showed some progress during the past year. It is evident that the Luther League of Iowa is no longer an experiment, but that the work is on a substantial footing. We trust that within a few years it will include in its membership every eligible Lutheran young people's society in the State. One new District League, the Eastern Iowa, had been organized during the year, which, with its membership of thirteen local Leagues, was admitted into the State League.

A paper on the theme "What Life Means to Me," prepared by Professor Lohre, of Jewell, was read by Magnus Johnson, and at the afternoon session Rev. Ole Shefveland, of Badger, introduced a discussion of the theme "The Relation of the Luther League Meeting to the Sunday Evening Service." Local conditions seem to shape the relation of these services so that what works to best advantage in one church will not prove profitable in another. It is, however, agreed that both these services must be retained and that one must help out the other so that the younger and the older members of the Church do not become segregated in their services.

The General Secretary, Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, was with us throughout the convention and did much toward making it a success. Brother Kuhns has a way of crowding a multitude of helpful hints and suggestions into a brief space of time, and his talks to the convention were well received. At the Thursday morning session he conducted a question box, which brought out the different methods used in different Leagues in the State, with valuable comments by the secretary. In the evening he gave the closing address of the convention. A few words of farewell by the president, with a graceful response by the local pastor, brought to a close the Fourth Annual Convention of the Luther League of Iowa. We trust that each local League represented received from the convention an impetus to renewed efforts and that greater interest will be taken in Luther League work than ever before. The good people of Thor showed their interest by taking liberally part in the offerings, and the State League starts out on the year's work better equipped financially than heretofore. A contribution of $25 was voted toward the salary fund of the General Secretary. Time and place of holding the next convention will be determined by the executive committee, and invitations should be in the hands of the president or secretary at an early date.

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## New York State Convention

(*Continued from page* 18.)

branches of our Church will make her fairer and stronger to meet the religious crisis which confronts Christianity in this Western world.

After an offertory solo, "The Publican," by Miss Ada Brehmer, and an anthem by the choir, Rev. L. M. Kuhns took charge of the closing devotional services and said in part:

Luther Leaguers are doing a great work and a great crisis is before us. If you will but stand by her colors you will write a new chapter in her history in this beloved land.

As the youth of our country saved the day in the Civil War, so the Church turns to the young to-day for support. The Luther League moves along lines approved by the Church and is massed for missions and other work. We need an educated laity. The Church asks for this buttress of strength for her men and women. Though there are differences along synodical lines, yet we stand on one common basis—the Augsburg Confession. The talent which is ours, we ought to give in the pulpit, the ministry of mercy and the poor. Give of your strength to that Church to whom you consecrated your life at confirmation.

Rev. W. J. Klingensmith commented on the high spiritual tone and conservative character of the convention and felt that the delegates should have a higher love and interest for the L. L. Let us return to our homes, resolving to do more for our Lutheran Church.

Rev. Kuhns then related the incident which occurred at the convention in St. Paul, when Miss Stone declared that she herself was an answer to prayer, after having been in captivity at the hands of the brigands. He declared that prayer should have an important place in our lives, and asked that we join in silent prayer, after which Rev. Grower offered prayer, closing with the singing of "Nearer, My God to Thee." After this impressive service, Rev. Klingensmith pronounced the benediction.

# Luther League Topics

1st Sunday in Advent. Dec. 1, 1907.

## Articles of Faith, Why Necessary

I Peter 3:15-16; Titus 2:1-2.
Doctrinal Topic Reviewed by Rt. Rev. C. A. Miller, D.D.

Questions to be answered in brief papers: Why are Articles of Faith necessary? What is their authority? What is to be thought of the churches that profess to have no Creed? What of the obligation under which those rest who have acknowledged a Creed?

Lessons for our own lives. 1. We have cause for gratitude in the fact that in fixed forms the faith has found expression in such wise that teachers and preachers of the Word may be tested and their interpretation of the Scriptures known to us before we take them as our leaders. Think what it would mean to you if you did not know what sort of teaching your pastor was going to give; whether he would preach a divine Christ, or one who was merely a great human religious guide; whether he would baptize an infant, bringing the little one to Christ, or would refuse, telling you that baptism was mere water, and could only be applied to an adult who was able to confess an explicit faith; whether he would bring to you the pure teaching of the Sacrament of the Altar, or that it was merely bread and wine, and that even the use of these was unnecessary and undesirable. This condition of affairs would not tend to unity, not even to harmony. It is far better that those who believe the Word of God in the same sense should worship together and work together than that men widely divided in their interpretation of the Scriptures should seek to form a spurious fellowship. In fact, it is only where men are *one in the faith* that there can be true Church Unity, or that Church Unity can be desirable.

2. We have cause for gratitude that the Church has provided for its laity so short and simple a confession of the faith. The creed for the people in our Church is not even the Augsburg Confession, however profitable it is for all of us to study and understand that creed. The pastors and theologians are bound to the Augsburg Confession and the other creeds of the Lutheran Church, but all that is required of the men and women in the pews is that they know and accept and confess Luther's Small Catechism, which brings the precious doctrine of the Word, with such fervor in such a spirit of devotion to our hearts. Yet, with all its brevity and simplicity, he who knows and believes the truth set forth in that little book, has all that is required to make him a true Lutheran, and has a right to be acknowledged as in the unity of the faith of the Church of the Reformation.

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2d Sunday in Advent. Dec. 8, 1907.

## The Lutheran—A Missionary Church

Rev. 3:7-13.
Missionary Topic Reviewed by Rev. William M. Horn.

That means simply that it is alive. The church that is not a missionary church is dead, for missionating is the sign of life. The gauge of all congregational life is not the number attending the church services, but the interest of the members in other people's spiritual welfare, and the amount that is given for missions is a better indication of the church life than the Church Records.

Every live Christian is interested in missions, for every live Christian has experienced the work of Christ in his own life; has learned the value of a soul, and cannot bear to see men bartering their souls for nothing, when he can help them. At the bottom, the mission spirit is the spirit of unselfishness, and unselfishness is of the essence of Christ's life. He lived and died for men, and therefore "we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."

Our Church is well fitted to be a missionary Church, because she has the pure Word of God and the Sacraments. They are the only means that will regenerate men, and because we have them a great responsibility is placed upon us to use them. In the mission sphere, as in every other sphere in God's kingdom, the first thing is personal service and then our means. St. Paul converted Europe without a cent, but with the Word of God. The mission spirit demands you yourself, and no substitute; it is at the very core of Christian character. Because of these facts it is impossible to speak of any live church as anything else than missionary, for missions mean life.

The Luther League Topics, complete lessons (of which the above are outlnes and reviews), in 32-page pamphlet, covering three months, can be supplied at rates given on page 37 by Luther League Review, Box 876, New York, N. Y.

For more definite presentation of these principles as practised by our Church papers might be prepared on the following subjects:

What has our Church done in the past for missions at home and abroad?

In what countries to-day has our Church missions?

What is the prospect for our Church in the twentieth century?

How many missionaries, home and foreign, are there in our American Church, and where are they? WILLIAM M. HORN.

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3d Sunday in Advent. Dec. 15, 1907.

**Augsburg Confession, Art. I., of God**

Exodus, 3:13-15; I John, 5:4-12.
Doctrinal Topic Reviewed by Rev. C. A. Miller, D.D.

Questions to be answered in brief papers: Does the Augsburg Confession disregard the teaching of the ancient Church? What facts are known concerning the authorship of the Augsburg Confession? What concerning the incidents of its presentation? What is the doctrine of the Trinity? Why do we hold it? (Bible proof.)

Lessons for our own lives: 1. We rejoice that we belong to a conservative Church. Luther and his adherents made no new departure. It is with satisfaction that the signers of the Confession point to their oneness in the faith with the fathers of the Council of Nicæa. And this first sentence of the Confession is characteristic. The Church of the Augsburg Confession is thoroughly in accord with the universal Christian creeds in all their doctrines, and her specific Confession is the restatement of those creeds in so far as the same subjects are embraced. The striking fact that from the time of the œcumenical creeds this Confession of ours is the first to mark off a distinct Christian body is worthy of remembrance, carrying with it the fact that, as a body of Christians with a distinct Confession, the Lutheran Church is older than the Roman Catholic Church, whose Confession (the Decrees of the Council of Trent) are about thirty years later than the Confession of Augsburg. But we glory not in the antiquity, but in the purity of the faith of our Confession. In it is no point which does not accord with the teaching and confessions, not only of the fathers, but of the Apostles and of Christ! Herein we rejoice and will rejoice.

2. The first and fundamental doctrine of the Church is that which confesses our faith in God. This doctrine illustrates the use of a creed and its authority. Many who profess to believe the Bible reject the doctrine of the Trinity. The Bible, of course, is not a creed. It is God's Word, His statement of the truth. The creed of a man is his answer to the question, "What does the Bible say?" about the questions embraced in the creed. Different men give different answers. The value of the creed, and its authority, lie in the integrity with which it confesses as a matter of faith what the Scriptures teach as a matter of truth. In so far as the creed sets forth the very truth of the divine Word, it is authoritative, for to deny it is to deny the truth of the Scriptures. The doctrine of the Trinity is the confession, concerning God in His Divine Essence, of those who are willing to take the Holy Scriptures as their rule of faith, and who, finding in the Scriptures the repeated teaching that God is One, and also the repeated testimonies to the One Diety of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, accept this mystery, upon which the whole evangelical system of truth rests, and worship and adore the Holy Trinity in the undivided Unity.

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Christmas. Dec. 22, 1907.

**The Star of Jacob**

Numbers, 24:15-24.
Biblical Topic Reviewed by Rev. C. A. Miller, D.D.

Questions to be answered in brief papers: Tell the story of Balaam's prophecy of the Star of Jacob. Wherein is the Star appropriate as the type of the Christ? Collect the Bible passages which refer to the Star in connection with Christ and explain them.

Lessons for our own lives: 1. Let us recognize in Christ the Morning Star of the world. Before Him, save as men had the vision of faith in His dawning, there was no light. Abraham saw His day and was glad. It was His day, too, that Balaam saw when he beheld the Star out of Jacob. He, in the closely related figure of old Zachariah (Luke i, 78) is the day-spring from on high, bringing the dawning of the day. And He spake of Himself as the "bright and morning Star" in the Revelation. (xxii, 16.) Gross darkness covered the people when the Star of Bethlehem arose and led some earnest souls on the quest for the Star out of Jacob. The birth of Jesus Christ was the fulfilment of this prophetic image. In Him came the day-dawn. When the Star stopped over the little

stable-cave where the Babe lay, the light of the world had come. The first, faint shining was at hand. More and more the light shone and a few rejoiced in that light. They that followed Him did not walk in darkness, but had the light of life. (See John viii, 12.) Brightly and more brightly the light still shines unto the perfect day.

2. The Star beautifully sets forth the place and office of Christ as Illuminer in this present age. The night is yet upon us and around us, though it be far spent and the day at hand. If it be designed to indicate that from the birth of our Lord the dark night was no longer starless, that light indeed had come; that hope had dawned, and knowledge was given; and in the morning Star lay the promise of the full daylight, and of the bright shining of the Sun, though that day had not yet arrived; if the figure is to tell of a Light that shines, though not yet in its fulness, not yet unobscured by the clouds of man's ignorance and sin, then the Star fitly portrays Christ in His first advent. We oftener think of Him and speak of Him as the Sun of Righteousness, and the phrase is a Scriptural one (Mal. iv, 2), but an examination of the passage will show that it is not in this period that He reveals Himself as the Sun, but in the time of His Second Advent, when in judgment, in power, in His own unveiled glory, He will appear.

To us, to-day, He is the Bright and Morning Star, we see His day, we rejoice in His light, we follow His guiding beams. But one day the Sun will rise, and in the radiance of His fuller light we shall dwell in the land of no darkness.

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End of Year. Dec. 29, 1907.

## "Nunc Dimittis"

Luke, 2:15-24.

Devotional Topic Reviewed by Rev. C. A. Miller, D.D.

Questions to be answered in brief papers: What is the story of the "Nunc Dimittis"? What are the chief thoughts in it? What is its use in the liturgy? Show appropriateness in each place. What does it suggest as applied to the end of the year?

Lessons for our own lives: The beautiful swan-song of old Simeon always seems appropriate to the end of things. It was at the end of a long life that the pious old man had fulfilled to him the promise that he should not depart until he had seen the Lord's Christ, and when he took the Babe in his arms he recognized the signal for departure. Not with any regret, but with joy that could be phrased only in a New Testament psalm, he sings:

"Now lettest thou thy servant depart, O Lord,
According to thy word, in peace
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

It is not a prayer that the Lord will let him depart in peace, but an acknowledgment that his time to depart has come, and that the Lord's mercy lets him go in the quiet joy of a hope fulfilled. The end of his life had come.

So, too, we feel the sweetness of the words in another shade of meaning, when we chant them as we come to the closing of our vespers. It is not now the departure from life, but the departure from the House of God, after the vision of His salvation which we have beheld as we have met Christ in His Word. No other words, ordinarily, seem so well to express the peace and gladness of the heart that has truly worshipped, as we go down from the heights to walk with Him on the lowly ways of the daily life and duty.

But best of all, at the close of the Feast of His Body and Blood, we take the same words upon our lips, for here, in an especial way, more really and vividly than in any other scene of our life in the flesh, we have seen His salvation, as He has come to us in His sacramental Presence. He has come to us as truly as He came to aged Simeon, not to lie in our arms, but to enter into our hearts, to be incorporate in our lives. "I am not worthy that Thou shouldst come beneath my roof," we have said, but He has come, and in God's peace He lets us depart, to wait awhile until that last departure, when alone we shall be more conscious of His very presence, and we shall see Him as He is.

It is not strange that at the end of the year the same words should bear our devotion to the throne. The year has revealed, if we have lived near to Him, ever more clearly His salvation. Each year is our salvation nearer than when we first believed. Its fulness, its consummation, is not yet, but in its approach we have seen it, we trust, with clearer vision. Still the journey stretches before us, and our station at the end of this last stage of the pilgrimage is but the starting-point for a new departure. Blessed are we if we are sure that the Lord lets us depart in the possession of His peace, while we wend our upward, onward way, until we see His face!

# Luther League Review

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE

ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE

**Luther League of America**

IN THE INTERESTS OF

**The Lutheran Church and her Young People.**

Edited by E. P. EILERT

WITH

W. C. STOEVER, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
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## Editorial

Strength of character in a commander, whether of a host or a small company, will win the victory. Uncertain often of what the ultimate results will be of our Christian stewardship, we, with the Psalmist, might say, "What is man that thou art mindful of him?" Yes, it is a mystery, and yet we know, as did the fearless commander and soldiers, mentioned in our initial article in this number, that our labors will not be in vain. As Leaguers we are ever pressing forward to the mark of our high calling, and this brings us to the thought that the only way to live in order to merit salvation is through sacrifice.

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Had Colonel Bouquet been afraid to brave the gloom and desolation of the trackless forest, would he ever have been strengthened in character and body as he was? No, sacrifice and undaunted courage make men and women able to do and dare. "Though a host should encamp about me, yet will I not fear." Luther was not afraid to go to Worms; Gustavus Adolphus was not afraid to plunge into the thickest of the fight in the struggle for religious freedom, and history, both religious and secular, is replete in incidents of great sacrifice, and well might all the soldiers of Christ arise and proclaim that

"A mighty fortress is our God;
A trusty shield and weapon."

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Many of our Leaguers become discouraged at times because our ranks are not filled as they should be, but have we the great faith so necessary to go forward in our great cause? Let us not be weary in well doing, even though our numbers may be few. If we are faithful in our every duty in our Christian calling as Leaguers others may join our ranks. Needy ones awaited the assistance of the great Swiss commander, and so in this world of sin and sorrow many souls are awaiting the gospel of light and cheering confidence to bring them to their Saviour, and in this we may all share. We must be willing to respond to the call to labor in whatever Christian mission we are placed if we would think to win the fadeless crown prepared for all who are faithful unto death.

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We believe the Lutheran Church has a great responsibility regarding the preservation and expounding of the Holy Scriptures in this country. We believe the Evangelical Lutheran Church has a great responsibility in helping to make this nation a Christian people and one whose God is the Lord, and to make America a beacon light to nations now in darkness. But to do this we should maintain and develop the principles without loss of our Lutheran distinction and by a Lutheranism comprising a knowledge of the doctrines in the Bible. In training young people for this great work the Luther League has a mission. We have a Church to love, and it

is better to seek to discover its good qualities than its defects and faults. These last may be plain enough. It is better to wish her good and to do her good.

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### Discipleship

The source of one of the Church's greatest weaknesses is the false conception so many people have of "discipleship." Their own belief in God and the Christ, and a "confession before men"; that is, membership in the Christian Church, they think are all that is necessary to assure their happiness in the future life. "Belief" and "confession" are, indeed, the passport to salvation, but Holy Writ teaches that salvation brings great benefits or lesser ones, according to the piety and devotion of the person who receives it. In other words, to be saved from condemnation in eternity is only the very first, and, perhaps, the smallest, element in salvation. "Saved, as by fire," "works burned," "he shall suffer loss," are the terms used to describe the experience of persons who are satisfied in this life with "belief" and "confession," and who gain thereby barely escape from eternal death.

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Now, "discipleship" involves very much more than mere escape from death. It involves service. Christ said to his first disciples, "Go preach," and the real test that he applies to all discipleship is, "That ye bear much fruit." Reading this passage with its connection, "So shall ye be my disciples," we discover its true meaning. The attainment of fruitful discipleship is the goal had in view by the Luther League. To gain abundant, not merely meager, salvation for one's self, and then to hand on to many others the knowledge we have, so that they, too, may learn of God and receive the gift of life—these two things constitute the ideal life of Christian activity—the life the League tries to help its members live. Get hold of the truth, work it into your life so that it becomes the power within you, then let it shine out upon, and into, other lives.

## Publisher's Column

Occasionally THE REVIEW receives complaints that reports of meetings, conventions and other League events that have been sent to this office have not appeared in these columns. The editors desire to state that no report of any League event is ever ignored. Reports have failed of delivery, and as the people who handle THE REVIEW's mail are liable to error, as are all other members of the human family, it is possible that a few reports that were delivered have failed of publication. For any such errors that may have occurred we beg our friends' pardon. But every report of a State or District League convention, or other real event, that reaches this office and escapes the possible accident referred to, will be published.

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It has been the practice of THE REVIEW to publish, also, reports of local League matters of interest. But it has been found necessary to set a limit to the length of local items, and also to admit only such as tell of some real event in the League's life. It would not be possible to publish a report of every meeting of every League in the Unitel States, and so it would be unreasonable and unfair to open the columns of THE REVIEW to any of the usual or regular meetings. At best, such reports would be interesting to but a few people, and it would be a vast waste of paper, printer's ink, and postage to circulate all over the United States news that has only local interest.

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In the past THE REVIEW has found it possible to publish all reports received of local League annual meetings with the names of their newly-elected officers (and this, of course, includes first meetings, or meetings for organization of new Leagues) of special meetings marking anniversaries or other notable events, and statements showing marked success, which rightly entitles a League to a place on the honor roll and which is calculated to inspire others or serve as a guide

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in the selection of forms or methods of work. These are the tests that have been necessary in order to hold the columns of THE REVIEW open to all, fairly and impartially.

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In this connection it may not be out of place to direct the attention of correspondents to the simple rules of correspondence work. There are many violations of these which, put together in the course of a year, rob the editors of an immense amount of precious time and energy.

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This number, although much larger than our regular issues, does not contain the concluding chapter of the story, "And a Little Girl Shall Lead Them." It will appear in the next number.

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# Our Churches and Institutions

## In Some of Our Large Cities

**Greater New York.**

—A home missionary meeting of more than ordinary importance occurred October 3 in Holy Trinity Church, Rev. Dr. Miller, pastor, when addresses were delivered by Dr. Kunzmann and his staff of field missionaries, Rev. Fundel, Rev. Bieber, Rev. Anda, Rev. Fry, and Rev. Beistel.

—The Church of the Ascension has secured as its pastor Rev. Frederick Schaeffer, formerly of Lockhaven, Pa.

**Philadelphia.**

—Rev. William H. Hetrick has become pastor of Immanuel Church, West Philadelphia. Rev. Hetrick was formerly pastor of Calvary Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

—A Lutheran Hospital Association has been formed in this city and it proposes to establish a hospital in West Philadelphia.

**Washington.**

—A bronze tablet in memory of Rev. W. E. Parson, D.D., was unveiled in the Church of the Reformation on October 13.

**Chicago.**

—Rev. Greeley B. Weaver takes charge of the new Hope Lutheran Mission, coming here after a successful pastorate at Vandalia, Ohio.

**St. Louis.**

—A Luther Hospice has been opened in connection with the Old People's Home, at 1906 Lafayette avenue. It is planned to afford a Christian home for travelers.

—The new building of the Reen Memorial Church, Rev. W. W. Barkley, pastor, was consecrated October 6. Rev. M. Rhodes, D.D., preached the sermon. This is the church for which Rev. George H. Reen and Mrs. Reen secured about $3,650, by conducting the "Augsburg Home" during the Exposition. The home was patronized by many Lutherans who visited the Exposition.

**Buffalo.**

—Trinity Church, Swedish, Rev. Julius A. Nordling, pastor, has sold its property on Spring street, and will locate in a more advantageous locality.

**St. Paul.**

—The First Swedish Lutheran Church, in this city, has started an English congregation and is looking for a pastor to take charge of the work.

**Columbus.**

—Immanuel Church, Rev. L. K. Probst, D.D., pastor, has cancelled its indebtedness.

**Los Angeles.**

—The Angelica Swedish Church, Rev. E. Nelander, pastor, has purchased land adjoining its present church site and will replace its edifice with one much larger and more beautiful.

**York.**

—In connection with the twenty-fifth anniversary of Rev. Dr. Enders' pastorate of Christ Church, of this city, it is stated that during this period the church he serves has received 2,500 members, and has raised about $225,000, of which nearly $100,000 was for beneficence.

—St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, October 6, laid the cornerstone of a new church building, which when completed will cost $60,000. The building is to be 168 feet long by 95 feet wide, and is located in the very heart of this rapidly growing city.

**Miscellaneous.**

—In connection with the Lutheran Conference held in October in Salt Lake City, Utah, there was consecrated a new building by the Swedish-Finnish Lutheran Church, in Park City, Utah. There are now a number of Lutheran churches planted in and around the strongholds of Mormonism.

—Trinity German Lutheran Church, of Camden, N. J., Rev. Thilo Goff, pastor, has received a Bible from the Emperor of Germany inscribed with a Scripture text and autograph. The gift was presented through the German Ambassador on the occasion of the golden jubilee of the congregation.

—By voluntary giving the congregation of the First Church, Mansfield, Ohio, Rev. S. P. Long, pastor, raised $11,173.85 during the Synodical year, of which sum $3,500 was beneficence.

—A Lutheran layman of the Western Conference of the Augustana Synod offered to donate $8,000 for the establishment of a Home for the Aged. Buildings in Winfield, Kan., were offered for the purpose and accepted.

—Rev. Prof, and Mrs. Alfred Hiller, of Hartwick Seminary, N. Y., celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage on September 10. Dr. Hiller has also completed fifty years of devoted and successful service in the Lutheran Church, as a minister and educator.

—Rev. C. L. Brown, D.D., is suffering from a mild attack of typhoid fever, which has delayed indefinitely his return to the mission field in Japan, for which he was to have sailed from Seattle on November 29. Leaguers will remember. Dr. Brown as one of the speakers at the rally of the Canton Convention.

**Memorial Windows, Church Decorations**

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—A bolt of lightning, October 4, destroyed the building of Ziegel Church, near Allentown, Pa., owned jointly by the Lutheran and Reformed congregations. The loss is $50,000. This church has a history dating from 1759, when it was founded by Rev. John Helfrich.

—On Sunday, October 6, the Rev. J. A. Sligh entered upon his forty-third year as pastor of St. Paul's Church, Newberry County, S. C. Rev. Sligh began serving this congregation upon his entrance into the ministry in 1864. During this long period four other congregations have grown out of St. Paul's and Lutheranism in that section has made substantial progress. Almost the entire membership of this congregation is composed of persons whom Pastor Sligh has baptized and confirmed.

—The Sunday School of St. John's Church, Easton, Pa., the Rev. J. C. Seegers, pastor, celebrated its diamond jubilee Sunday, October 13. One person, Mrs. Samuel Garis, was present at the celebration who was one of the scholars on the opening day, and the historical address was delivered by Mr. Reuben Kolb, who has been a member of the school for sixty-five years. During these seventy-five years the school has had but five superintendents. The enrollment is now 540 pupils. The total receipts for the past year were $1,233, of which $462 was given to beneficence.

—In the Deaconess' Mother-house, at Baltimore, there are thirty-five deaconesses, probationers and candidates. The receipts in the past two years amounted to $25,870.

—Emperor William has given $2,500 toward the new chapel of the Institutions of Mercy, under the care of Pastor von Bodelschwingh, at Bielefeld, Germany.

—On Sunday, October 6, and Monday evening, October 7, St. John's congregation, Mauch Chunk, Pa., celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its organization, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the ordination of their pastor, the Rev. W. M. Rehrig, Ph.D.

—An imperial decree by the Emperor of Russia has been issued, which recognizes the faithful services, for law and order, of the Lutheran pastors of the Baltic provinces, during the recent revolutionary period.


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### Luther League of America

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## NEW YORK.

### Albany and Susquehanna District.

—The Luther League of Zion Church, Cobleskill, Rev. H. D. Hayes, pastor, has undertaken its season's work with renewed vigor. A study course in Church History for two meetings each month has been outlined. Miss Mary Hutt is the newly elected president. A Junior League has been organized.

### Mohawk Valley District.

—The annual convention of the Luther League of the Mohawk Valley District was held in the Trinity Lutheran Church, of Amsterdam, Rev. G. W. Fritsch, pastor, on Tuesday, October 22, 1907. There were three sessions. Dinner and supper were served in the

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basement of the church. The first session started at 10:30 with President Coney in the chair. After devotional exercises Rev. Fritsch extended a welcome to the convention and stated some interesting facts about the city of Amsterdam, showing its importance and rank in the manufacturing world. The greeting was responded to by Mr. Coney. Mr. Rockwell, of Utica, delivered an address on the subject, "Am I My Brother's Keeper?" followed by discussion. The point emphasized was that Leaguers, by aiding and strengthening the Luther League, are building an organization that will keep many of their brothers from evil. The officers' reports were presented. There was a gain of 111 members in the Leagues of the district, and as 37 of the losses recorded were Juniors, the net gain of Seniors was 148.

The afternoon session opened with a devotional service. Then came an interesting address by Rev. Charles B. Gruver, of West Sand Lake, on "The Luther League and the Church." He urged that Leaguers should undertake willingly all tasks that may be assigned them in the League, and not limit themselves to any particular branch of the work. At this session, Miss Kaufman, of Amsterdam, sang. Rev. L. F. Gruber, of Utica, then delivered an eloquent address on "Unity in Diversity in the Lutheran Church." The convention was disappointed in the absence of two of the appointed speakers, Rev. Roscoe C. Wright, of Amsterdam, and Rev. Charles W. Leitzell, of Johnstown. Instead of these addresses the convention discussed the question of conducting home rallies. Many novel and useful suggestions were given and there was some discussion of the relative values of other forms of young people's societies, which disclosed a strong sentiment in favor of the League. Miss Nietsch and Mr. Schneider each sang a solo. The convention elected the following delegates to the State Convention: Mr. A. A. Coney, Rev. L. F. Gruber, E. A. Hieber and Clifford A. Rockwell. These delegates were instructed to vote at the State Convention in favor of the amendment to increase the dues of the District Leagues to the State League. The nominating committee reported the following who were elected officers: President, A. A. Coney, Canajoharie; vice president, Alfred Huisgens, Utica; corresponding secretary, Mrs. C. J. Witherwax, Schenectady; recording secretary, Clifford A. Rockwell, Utica; treasurer, Edward W. Shineman, Canajoharie. A committee was appointed to revise the constitution, using as a basis the model suggested by the National League. It was reported that a new League has been formed at Herkimer, N. Y. The report of the credential committee showed that there were eighteen societies represented with a total of ninety-one delegates.

The evening session opened with an anthem by the choir of the church and devotional services. The convention heard a recitation by Miss Giese, of Amsterdam. A quartet sang "Hark, Hark, My Soul." Rev. Adolph F. Walz, of Troy, delivered an address on "Cultivation of the Lutheran Consciousness Among Our Young People," and Rev. William M. Baum, D.D., of Canajoharie, delivered a brief address on "God-Inspired Ministries." The session and convention closed by singing the Luther League Rally Hymn. The hospitality of the people of Amsterdam, the excellence of the program,

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and the ideal weather made the day very profitable and enjoyable to the delegates and the many visitors.

## NEW JERSEY

—On Friday evening, October 25, the New Jersey State League conducted a Rally at Upsala College, Kenilworth. The principal speaker was Rev. Jeremiah Zimmerman, D.D., L.L.D., of Syracuse, on "Life and Customs in India." His address was one of intense interest and could not help proving beneficial and instructive.

Rev. John E. Heindel, president of the New Jersey State League, addressed the Rally also, mentioning the excellent features of the program for the convention, on Election Day, in Jersey City, and urging the attendance of all Leaguers. Dr. Beck, of Upsala College, and Rev. F. C. Krapf also made brief addresses. Vocal and instrumental solos were rendered by members of Holy Trinity League, Elizabeth.

Besides a full attendance of the Upsala College students, members and friends were present from Holy Trinity Church and the German Lutheran Church, Elizabeth.

—On Sunday evening, October 6, the Luther League of Holy Trinity Church, Elizabeth, N. J., Rev. F. C. Krapf, pastor, observed its eighth anniversary. The vesper service was used and Dr. G. C. Berkemier, of the Wartburg Orphan Farm School, Mt. Vernon, N. Y., delivered a very interesting address on "What Are you Living For?" The pastor spoke briefly and the report of the secretary showed that the League was making advances. The chapel was appropriately decorated with autumn flowers and the Luther League colors. The newly elected officers are: Mr. Simon Nitze, president; Miss May S. Burkeman, corresponding secretary; Miss Edith Mathews, financial secretary; Mr. Charles C. Murphy, treasurer; Mr. John C. Johnson, organist.

The Junior Luther League, after a vacation during the summer months, has resumed meetings each Saturday afternoon, and the outlook for this work is encouraging.

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Philadelphia District.**

—The Luther League of Bethany Church, Roxborough, Rev. H. C. Schnieder, pastor, held

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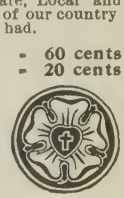

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an anniversary service in the evening of October 21, at which the address was delivered by Rev. G. Doering, of New York.

**Pittsburgh District.**

—The Luther League of Christ Church, Pittsburgh, Rev. E. A. Trabert, pastor, is gathering funds for a new organ for the Sunday School room.

**Berks County District.**

—Among the most successful conventions in the history of the District Luther League of Berks County was the fifty-sixth quarterly gathering held in St. John's Lutheran Church, Boyertown, on Thursday, October 10. Delegates representing every local in the district and many other Leaguers joined in swelling the attendance to unusual numbers. The large church was elaborately decorated with plants, flowers and a profusion of autumn leaves in keeping with the convention idea—"Leaves."

The first session opened at 10 a. m. with devotional services conducted by Rev. Melvin A. Kurtz, of Boyertown. Rev. A. M. Weber, the pastor loci, extended cordial greeting on behalf of the local League and congregation, and response was made by President E. W. Mentzer. The report of the president was a résumé of the year's activities, followed with a number of recommendations for increasing the efficiency of the work, which were considered and adopted. The following officers were unanimously elected: President, John H. Early, St. James' Church, Reading; Vice presidents, Charles Esterly, Grace Church, Reading, and Rev. C. E. Kistler, Alsace Church, Reading; secretary, Miss Ida M. Fritz, St. John's Church, Boyertown; treasurer, A. P. Body, St. James' Church, Reading; corresponding secretary, Miss Anna M. Miller, St. John's Church, Hamburg; statistical secretary, Henry H. Hernan, St. James' Church, Reading. Interesting reports were submitted by the District League's delegates to the State Convention, held in Allentown, September 24 and 25. These reports were given by A. P. Body, Garson M. Huyett, John H. Early, Charles F. Reed and H. H. Hernan. An instructive feature of this session was "Leaves of History from the Locals," in which every local participated.

The afternoon session opened at 2 o'clock, with devotional services by the Rev. Z. H. Gable. Rev. F. F. Buermeyer, D.D., delivered the first address. His theme was "A Fadeless Leaf." The address was an exhaustive and scholarly presentation of the life of George Burkhart, in his relation to the Reformation. Rev. J. F. Ohl, of Philadelphia, addressed the convention on "Nothing But Leaves." His theme was inner mission work in the great cities. The closing address of the afternoon was by Rev. P. George Sieger, of Lancaster, whose subject was "An Olive Leaf," by which he characterized the Luther League. Resolutions conveying the thanks of the District League to the pastor, the League and the congregation of St. John's Church for their hospitable entertainment were adopted.

The vesper service, beginning at 7:15, was conducted by the pastor, Rev. A. M. Weber.

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The address of the evening was by Rev. O. P. Smith, D.D., of Pottstown, on "The Leaves of the Tree of Life" presenting the Luther League as an aid to the Church in bringing about the healing of the nations by promoting the spread of the Gospel.

President Early has appointed the following committees: Literature secretary—Harry M. Wertz, 1042 Madison avenue, Reading, Pa. Executive Committee—Charles J. Esterly, chairman, A. Raymond Bard, Charles F. Reed, Rev. Wm. O. Laub, W. D. Schoenly, Henry H. Hernan, Garson M. Huyett; Extension Committee—Dr. E. W. Mentzer, chairman, George M. Jones, William A. Merkle, Rev. J. Franklin Snyder, C. J. F. Gruber, Enoch H. Hartline, Amos Hassler; Credentials Committee—Miss Katharine G. Armstrong, chairman, Miss Nora R. Huyett, Miss Annie E. Medler, Miss Lillie M. Geiger, Miss Bertie Henry, Miss Maude F. Hinterleiter, Miss Elizabeth Reber.

## OHIO

—Twenty-nine of the young people of St. Mark's Church, Mansfield, Rev. B. B. Uhl, pastor, organized themselves into a Luther League on Sunday, November 3. The League will study the Topics.

—The Luther League of the Church at Asheville presented the church with a new pulpit Bible.

—New altar cloths for the church have been provided by the Luther League of Grace Church, Perrysville, Rev. Howard C. Garvic, pastor.

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**Springfield District.**

—The Young People's Society of the First Lutheran Church, Springfield, Rev. Clarence E. Gardner, pastor, whose change from a Christian Endeavor Society to a Luther League was reported in the October issue, has begun a careful and systematic study of the doctrines and forms of worship of our Church. One of the first meetings was devoted to a study of the Common Service, and others will be occupied in learning what our Church teaches about the great leading truths of the Christian religion. The following officers have been elected: President, Leonard C. Eisenmenger; vice president, George Crawford; recording secretary, Charles Nissley; corresponding secretary, Edith H. Ritchie; treasurer, Ruth Fish; pianist, Ruth Wiesenstein.

—The Luther League of the Fourth Lutheran Church, Springfield, began the season with an increase in membership. At the annual business meeting the following officers were elected: President, Florence M. Welty; vice president, Dwight P. Bair; secretary, Edith Ellwood; treasurer, Wm. Gotwald. Mr. Dwight P. Bair was elected as delegate to the District League.

## WEST VIRGINIA

**Ohio Valley District.**

—The Ohio Valley District Luther League held a very profitable convention in St. John's Church, Martin's Ferry, Ohio, Rev. G. Johannes, pastor, October 30-31. Delegates from seven Leagues and many visitors were present. One new League, that of Steubenville, Rev. Sherr, pastor, was added to the list. On Wednesday evening there was a reception. The pastor of the church, in behalf of his League and congregation, welcomed the convention. Rev. A. L. Benze, in the absence of the president, responded. Then followed short addresses by ministers present, interspersed with music, by the choir. The church was beautifully decorated with the League colors, plants and flowers.

Rev. A. C. Sumens conducted the Matin service, Thursday morning. Mr. H. A. Nolte, presiden of the District League, gave a short address, in which he sounded the keynote, "Faithful Work." Much business was transacted and the following officers elected: President, Henry A. Nolte; vice president, Henry Kramer; recording secretary, Miss Gertrude Rohrey; corresponding secretary, Miss Clara Strobel; treasurer, Miss Augusta Schrebe. At this session Rev. P. Graf spoke of the help and encouragement the laymen receive at conventions, and urged the idea of supporting a young man to prepare for the ministry. The suggestion was well received, but left to the decision of individual Leagues.

At the afternoon session, Rev. A. L. Benze presided. The following papers were read and discussed: "Luther, the Great Friend of Young People," by Rev. Samuel Schwann, D.D.; "The Luther League, a Mission Agency; Its Sphere and Activity," by Miss Lena Meyer; "The Duty of the Luther League to Study and Defend Scripture," by Rev. Johannes. Miss Ella Kuckuck sang a solo. The local League very hospitably entertained its guests.

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A grand rally marked the close of the convention Thursday evening, with special music by a choir of fifty voices, who sang Haydn's "The Heavens Are Telling." Rev. A. L. Benze conducted the devotional services, assisted by Rev. W. Hartmann. Rev. W. J. Miller, D.D., of Greensburg, Pa., delivered a most eloquent address on the Reformation, which was highly appreciated by the large audience present, and especially instructive to the League.

The rally closed with the singing of the Luther League Rally Hymn. The convention was an inspiring one, and should encourage and quicken to greater and more intelligent activity every one who was present.

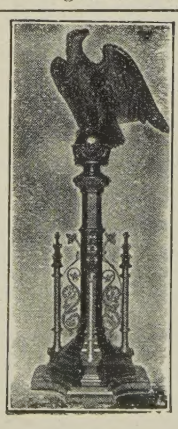
—The Luther League of St. John's Church, of Martin's Ferry, which entertained the District League convention, is an active organization of seventy-five members, with new ones being added each month. The Luther League Topics are studied at a devotional meeting on Sunday evening. The officers of the League are as follows: President, Louis Helling; vice president, William Nursken; secretary, Louis M. Sommers; treasurer, Mrs. August Beeker.

## INDIANA

—The Luther League of Holy Trinity English Lutheran Church, Rev. Elmer D. S. Boyer, pastor, at its business meeting last month accepted, with regret, the resignation of Mr. L. W. Voorhees, as president, and elected Mr. E. A. Lindquist to the place. After the business session a reception was given to the Lutheran boys attending Purdue University. There are more than twenty-four Lutheran boys attending the University.

## ILLINOIS

—The first convention of the recently organized Augustana Luther League, of Chicago, was



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held in the Y. M. C. A. building, Friday, October 18. At the business session in the afternoon most of the young people's societies and Luther Leagues were represented. After some preliminary work had been done Rev. C. Christenson, of Humboldt Park, read a very able paper on the "Luther League in the Community," followed by a profitable discussion.

Hon. Frank Nelson spoke, expressing gratification with the progress that is being made in the work, but urging the need of better organization and better directed effort. Dr. L. G. Abrahamson spoke briefly of the duty of the children of the Church to speak well of her and do active work through her regular agencies. In the evening, Dr. Gustav Andreen delivered a sermon on the text, "Come with us for we will do thee good," as the Church's message to the young. Mr. Nelson also delivered an address in which he urged the need of better organization and of affiliation with the State and National Leagues.

## IOWA

—The Luther League was given a hearing at the late convention of the Iowa Synod of the General Synod. The cause was represented by Rev. W. H. Blancke, D.D., president of the Iowa State League.

## MINNESOTA

### Twin City District.

—The Young People's Societies of the Swedish Lutheran congregations in and around the Twin Cities held a convention in the First Swedish Lutheran Church, of St. Paul, on October 11, 12 and 13. Among the speakers was Hon. John A. Johnson, Governor of Minnesota.

—The Luther League of the Minnesota Conference of the Augustana Synod held its annual meeting in the First Swedish Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Rev. Peter Peterson, pastor, October 11-13. The principle address at the first session, Friday evening, was delivered by Hon. Frank Nelson, president of Minnesota College. In the discussions of practical questions there appeared sentiment in favor of better organization and of a more nearly uniform plan for meetings, such as is supplied in the Luther League Topics. The following officers were elected: President, Hon. Frank Nelson; vice president, Rev. E. O. Stone; secretary, Miss Minnie Erickson; treasurer, Miss Helvine Franzen.

### Red River Valley District.

—The eighteenth semi-annual convention of the Red River Valley District Luther League was held at Twin Valley, October 20 and 21, in our Saviour's Church, Rev. A. L. Huus, pastor. On Sunday morning Prof. R. Bogstad, of Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., preached the convention sermon on the text, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God." At the opening of the session Sunday afternoon, Mr. A. Engeseth, president of the Missionary Society of Twin Valley, extended a hearty welcome to all delegates and visitors, Professor Bogstad responding in be-

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half of the District League. The first paper was read by Miss Kate Johnson, of Grafton, N. Dak., on the subject, "The Motive of Our Lives." She showed how we should let the love of Christ permeate our life and let His will direct us. N. C. Moen, of Ada, Minn., delivered a forcible address on "The Need of Christian Men in Our Public Life." A Christian nation has for its pillars morality, religion and education. Let us preserve these principles. Arouse the Christian citizenship of the land and there will be men for the difficult work and conditions that arise in our public life. The address on Sunday evening was given by Rev. L. M. Kuhns, General Secretary, who urged the Luther Leaguers on to greater activity for the cause of Christ. We should have a keen desire to do something for the Church, to work without complaint and to know that all true service has a value.

On Monday morning, Rev. A. B. Hinderlie, of Ada, Minn., presented a paper on the theme "How to Manifest the Spirit of Christ in Our Lives." This excellent paper brought out a lively discussion in which Professor Bogstad, Rev. Kuhns, Rev. Huus, Mr. P. R. Lavik, and J. Vold participated.

A round table conducted by General Secretary Kuhns on Monday afternoon was full of practical suggestions for local League work. Rev. A. L. Huus, local pastor, gave a fine address on the need of Christian schools. He urged that Lutherans give more heed to Christian colleges and schools.

We should see that our Lutheran young people attend Christian schools and colleges. A short business session was held Monday afternoon, at which the committee on credentials reported twenty-two delegates in attendance. A vote of thanks was extended to General Secretary Kuhns for his inspiring address Sunday evening and for his many helpful suggestions during the entire convention.

Monday evening a delightful reception was tendered the delegates and visitors by the entertaining League. The reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Engeseth, where a pleasing musical program was given, followed by a service of refreshments.

All sessions were interspersed with music by the local choir and soloists. In the unavoidable absence of the president, Rev. H. O. Shurson, of Moorhead, Minn., Mr. A. Engeseth, of Twin Valley, acted as chairman, and Miss Emma G. Gullikson was appointed secretary pro tem., filling the place of Miss Rose Nelson, of Fargo, N. Dak., recording secretary. At every session the church was filled and the closest attention was given to all papers and discussions. The next meeting will be held in February, 1908, at a place to be selected by the Executive Committee.

(*Continued on page 42.*)

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# The Juniors, November

DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED BY REV. C. E. HAUPT, D.D., LANCASTER, PA.

A Memory Verse for November, St. John 3:36—"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life."

THE NEW JUNIOR TOPICS.

After much care and prayer, the long-awaited Topics have been prepared and are going out into the hands of the busy workers here and there in the great field of Junior life. They have been reduced to the smallest possible compass so as to make them conform with the regular Topics of the Luther League at large. Those who have contributed, each a lesson, have been selected for the purpose because of their known interest and ability; many of them being themselves engaged in practical "Junior" work.

There has been only praise thus far received by the Topics Committee, since the first quarterly, or booklet, appeared, and already the work has been begun of using it.

These Topics may be used either in the order given, or the moral or historic or biographic, etc., may be taken together in turn, till the booklet is finished.

The committee in charge bespeak a kind and gracious reception for the worthy work of those who have so diligently labored for the blessing of those around them, growing up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

If you have not seen the Topics, write to the REVIEW, P. O. Box 876, New York City, for a sample copy.

—❦—

QUERIES FOR JUNIORS.

Have you a Badge of the Luther League?

Do you wear it?

Do you know why you wear it?

Do you know who Luther was?

Do you know when and where he was born?

Do you know why he was named Martin?

Do you know any great thing that Luther did?

Do you know *why* you are a Lutheran?

Are you doing anything to help forward your church, your League or your school?

The Thanksgiving Motto—O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good because His mercy endureth forever. *Ps. 118:1.*

The Lord is good to all; and His tender mercies are over all His works. *Ps. 145:9.*

Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable Gift. *II Corinthians, 9:15.*

Now is the time to begin to make ready for the joyous *Christmastide.*

One of the greatest and best habits to form is that of helping others.

Why may not our Junior League be of much service in city life, by keeping good conduct as a great object to be attained by each one of us all?

—❦—

SUGGESTIONS.

Recital of the 23d Psalm or any other from memory.

A reward for so doing.

A story from Bible history.

A story from Church history.

Explanation of the Luther League emblem.

A recitation.

Reading of a good, selected short story.

In the various local and general conventions it is often possible that the Junior League is overlooked by the makers of the programs. Let us hope that a place shall ever be provided for this most necessary and important section of the work.

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## Luther League Items

(*Continued from page 41.*)

### KENTUCKY

—An interesting Luther League rally was held in Trinity Church, Bellevue, Rev. B. W. Ziegler, pastor, on October 6. The speakers were Mr. Charles Schier, of the congregation, and Prof. H. L. Eby, superintendent of the city public schools.

### NEW MEXICO

—In the Lutheran Church, at Albuquerque, Rev. Ernest Moser, pastor, there was organized on September 29, a Luther League. This church is doing mission work among people who go to that place in search of health, many of whom are too weak to work, and are without adequate means. A Lutheran home for these people is spoken of.

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